



# Alive!

Vol. 5 ■ No. 1

**Tuned In**

LA Cityview 35's monthly highlights ... in a new **Alive!** column.

See Pages 49

SERVING OVER 17,000 CITY AND DWP EMPLOYEES

Pages January 2006

## The *Alive!* Interview

### From Street Of Despair To Dreams

**In an in-depth interview, Rushmore Cervantes, GM of El Pueblo Historic Monument, talks about bringing Olvera Street back from instability.**

In the fall, Club CEO John Hawkins and *Alive!* editor John Burnes sat down with El Pueblo General Manager Rushmore Cervantes for an honest and informative chat as part of an occasional series of *Alive!* interviews. — Ed.



Rushmore Cervantes, GM, El Pueblo

See *Alive!* Interview, Page 42

### New Head of Animal Svcs. Knows Field

**Mayor appoints Ed Boks, who has big-city animal care experience. Department staff voices opposition.**



Ed Boks, Animal Services General Manager

**ANIMAL SERVICES** — Dec. 15, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa terminated Animal Services General Manager Guerdon Stuckey, who had been in the position for approximately 15 months, and appointed Ed Boks from New York City to replace him.

Boks brings 22 years of experience in the animal welfare and control field to this position, according to materials released from the Mayor's Office.

A nationally known advocate of humane animal control practices, Boks comes to Los Angeles from New York City Animal Care and Control.

See *Animal Services*, Page 56

**The City Parties!**

Thera Bradshaw, ITA General Manager, celebrates with Santa, ITA's Bill Creitz, at the ITA holiday party.

Guests John, Jenni and baby Kaylee Ugarte at the LAPD Training Division holiday party.

Luis Aguilar, performs for the crowd at the Convention Center holiday party.

Santa and his helpers arrive on a fire truck at the LAX children's Christmas party.

Phyllis Stitt, Vernon Library; and Retha Walker, Junipero Serra Library at the Library's Central/Southern Areas holiday party.

Philip Sawyer, guest Carolyn Sawyer, Electric Craft Helper at the LAPD Training Division holiday party.

*Alive!* joined dozens of City departments as they celebrated the holidays. Catch all the recaps beginning on **PAGE 26.**

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**Happy New Year from the Club!**

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# Alive!

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*\* A Message From the CEO \**

# Club '06 Resolution: Work Harder for **YOU**

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

## Happy New Year!

And a happy New Year it will be – especially when you consider the Club's New Year's resolution: to work even harder at celebrating the lives and work of City employees!



And in sticking to this resolution, we are proud to bring you *Alive!*'s newest monthly feature: monthly highlights of ITA's Emmy-award-winning Channel 35. And what better person to help us do that than Emmy-award-winning Tony Ighani, the illustrious station manager for Channel

**Tuned In** 35 (and yes, he's a proud City employee!). See page 7 for all the details.

We've also expanded the retirees section ("The Best Years") to include information on all three retiree associations: the Retired Los Angeles City Employees Association Inc. (RLACEI), the DWP Retirees Association and the Fire and Police Retirees Association (LAFPRA). And remember, whether you're active or retired, you're all part of the City family!

So, what are your resolutions? See page 5 for a sample of some resolutions from your fellow City employees. By the way, in case you're wondering or need some ideas, here are the top five resolutions people make:

- 1. Spend more time with family and friends**
- 2. Exercise more**
- 3. Lose weight**
- 4. Quit smoking**
- 5. Enjoy life more**

In closing, thank you for being a member of the City Employees Club. There is so much to be proud about in working for the greatest City in the country. Whether you work for the Port, ITA, General Services, LAPD, the Library, Sanitation or other department; whether you're retired or active, we're all one big family, and we're proud to be able to deliver the great news that goes on each and every month.

Happy 2006!

*-John*

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

## Features

*Alive!* January 2006  
The newspaper of the  
City Employees Club of Los Angeles

### Cover Story:

## 26 The City Parties!

Departments all over the City ushered in the holidays in grand style. Our *Alive!* reporters were there, covering dozens of celebrations. Relive the fun.

## 1 Controversy at Animal Services

The ouster of General Manager Guerdon Stuckey causes uproar in beleaguered department.

## 1 Fixing El Pueblo Monument

In the *Alive!* interview, El Pueblo GM Rushmore Cervantes documents Olvera Street's troubles and how he's fixing them.

## 7 Tuned In

*Alive!* begins a new column: Tuned In, highlighting LA Cityview 35's offerings for the month.

## 13 Excellent Public Works

Three Public Works projects win awards from industry group.

## 13 Lighting Up Hollywood

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# Harvest at Ontario

## Ontario Association has pre-Thanksgiving Harvest Feast

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor  
Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

**AIRPORTS** — Ontario International Airport Association of Airport Employees hosted a Pre-Thanksgiving Feast Nov. 17 in the Construction and Maintenance lunchroom. An admission fee of \$7 paid for a full plate of food that included turkey and dessert.

Employees were able to take a break from their workloads and enjoy good food. Raffle prizes



were handed out at the end of the event, including two Legoland tickets donated by the Club.

The Annual Harvest Feast was another successful event and everyone enjoyed the festivities.



From left: Dan Kane, James Rudy and Gregory Howard.



Fred Gallegos and Alberto Ascencio take a break.



Tyrone Jessamy and Gale Howard.



Danny Galindo.



Airport employees enter their name into the raffle.



Connie Gomez and Ed Medina.



Gary Ramirez gets a full plate.



Richard and Barbara Alvarez.



Leatrice Pickens and Jimmy Serrano.



From left: Myrta Tesso and Paul Delgado.



From left: Leonida Del Castillo, Dora Alcocer and Janene Levario.



Elaine Hatcher and Adolph Sharp.



From left: Delbert Patschull, Bertha Vega; Norma Teixeira and Dan Lindsay.



From left: Lynne Wright, Alan Hyde and Tracy Richard.



Front row: Stephanie Martinez, and Lori Coleman. Back: Leatrice Pickens.



Party is over; time to get back to work!



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# LETTERS To the Editor

## During City Interview, How Best to Shake Hands?

I recently read the article in the newspaper about dressing right for an interview, and I had a question regarding interviews that has been puzzling me. When doing a group interview should I make it an effort to shake hands with all the interviewers, if there are three or more or is it too time-consuming? Thank you for taking time on reading my e-mail.

— Daniel Garcia, Club Member

*Alive's Personnel columnist, Jackie David, responds: That's a great question, Daniel. A City interview panel typically consists of up to three people, with introductions made at the beginning of the interview. Do shake hands with each person as he/she is introduced. Panel members usually make it easier by making the first move. If they don't, then use the opportunity to show your professionalism and ability to take charge of the situation by extending your hand. I can't see there being more than three people in an interview panel. However, if faced with the situation, then do shake hands with the first two or three members nearest you and then acknowledge other introductions with a nod in the general direction of the person being introduced.*

### Here are a couple other pointers about shaking hands:

- Do smile and look the person in the eye.
- Shake hands with a medium-firm grip to convey confidence and authority. A limp (wet noodle) handshake may give the impression you are hesitant or meek. A bone-crunching (I want to show you how strong I am) squeeze can hurt and give the impression you are overly enthusiastic or domineering. If unsure about your handshake, then take the time to practice with a co-worker or friend.

Remember when walking into an interview: It only takes 30 seconds to make a lasting impression. Your handshake will speak volumes about you in that crucial 30 seconds.

## Can Councilmembers, Mayor Join Club, See Good Work?

I'm curious: Can City Councilmembers and the Mayor join the Club? I think it would be a great resource for them to see what all of us are doing in and around the City. Sometimes I get the feeling that they are a little disconnected from the City employee. There's so much good that we're doing, and I would really like them to see it.

By the way, I'm not sure if you are going to print this or not, but if you do I'd like to say that I've noticed that Councilman Zine is always very nice when he meets City employees. That's really important to the troops, and I wanted to say thanks.

Keep up the good work.

— Thomas Williams, S.W., Club Member

*Thanks for writing, Thomas. All City employees, including Councilmembers and the Mayor, are welcome to join the Club. In fact, Councilmembers Tom LaBonge, Jan Perry, Greig Smith and Janice Hahn are indeed Club Members and contribute to Alive! on occasion with letters to the editor, Council columns and story submissions. We know that several other Councilmembers read Alive! and are pleased with the work being done by their fellow City employees. We have been in conversation with the staff of Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa about his being the subject of an Alive! interview in the New Year; we'll keep you apprised of that development. But, whether you're a Councilmember, the Mayor or a rank-and-file City employee, Alive! represents you equally. We consider all City employees as equals and celebrate the lives of all City employees thusly.*

— Ed.

## Hynda Column Causes Him To Look Down, in Wonder

I was fascinated by the Hynda Rudd column, "History Comes Alive," about the upcoming book by Anna Sklar regarding the City's sewer system. How many of us think about where the waste is going when we push the handle down to flush the toilet! It seems so easy when in fact it is very complicated.

Thank you, Hynda, for bringing this complicated issue to our attention. I look forward to reading the book.

— David Hiovich, Transportation

## ClubFest Photo Gallery Sells Ticket for Next Year

Looking over the photo gallery from Clubfest in the December *Alive!* tells me that the Club is not untruthful when they say that they want to celebrate the lives and work of City employees and their families. There were no color lines, no politics, just a day to say thanks to City employees. Too bad City Hall doesn't do enough of that, but how great it is to have the City Employees Club save the day. By the way, the foam photos are hilarious. When you sell tickets to Clubfest next year, I'll be buying.

— John Duncan, General Services

## Gilda Loves That Retirees Were Eligible for Refund

Wow! I want to thank the Club for my refund check that came in the mail. It seems as though it has been years since I last got my refund check. I was told that once we retired, we weren't entitled for a refund check, but my check is finally here. I had to call the Club office to make sure I wasn't dreaming. Sure enough, the young lady told me that the check was real and that I could cash it. This is going to be a good Christmas. Thank you and Happy New Year.

— Gilda Hunter, Retired

*You're welcome, Gilda. Retired Club Members who held life insurance with the Club were eligible for the refund this year.*  
— Ed.

## Tina's Interested in Info on Affirmative Action Group

It's a pleasant surprise to read that the Affirmative Action Association for Women is doing well. It's also nice to see that there is support from the Club (I saw Club President John Hawkins in the article in the December issue).

I have a question, though. How can I get hold of AAAW or get more information on them so that I can join?

— Tina Thompson, Rec and Parks

*We're glad you enjoyed the article we printed on the Affirmative Action Association for Women. Look in the back of this month's issue for contact information on this group, as well as many other City-affiliated groups. We run this feature every month. But, to save you time, contact the Affirmative Action for Women Association at (213) 847-AAAW; write to AAAW, P.O. Box 53488, Los Angeles, CA90053, or visit the Website at www.la-aaw.org.*  
— Ed.

## Club's Gift Ideas Were Just Thing for This Guy

I admit it. I'm the typical guy who hates shopping for Christmas gifts. I have such a tough time figuring out what people would like. But all was solved on a Monday afternoon when I was ordering AMC movie tickets online on the Club Website. The Club is a life-saver for selling City hats, City watches and books on the history of Los Angeles. I finished up all my shopping that afternoon! Thanks, City Employees Club!

— J. Smith, Club Member

## Joe Had Memorable Time At RLACEI Holiday Party

I went to the RLACEI Christmas Party as a guest, and I don't think I've had more fun than I did at that event this year. People like Phil Skarin, Ken Spiker and Ed Harding were very cordial and really made everyone feel good. It was nice to see some old colleagues and get a good meal while I was at it. There seemed to be a good crowd, too. Happy New Year to all my friends and former coworkers!

— Joe Stern, recently retired, LAPD

## WRITE TO US TODAY!

Send your letters by email to  
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or conventionally:

The Club  
World Trade Center  
350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

# QUESTION ?

## of the Month

Our Club Counselors are all over the City, every day, serving our Club Members.

While we're out, we'll be asking City employees a fun question. Keep your eyes open... you never know when we'll be asking you what you think!

## ASK A QUESTION: What is your New Year's Resolution?



"Eat healthier."

— Richard Moreno, Traffic Officer, Transportation, 4 years



"Work out more and spend less."

— Alden Marsh, Traffic Officer, Transportation, 3 months



"Try to have a better year than last year."

— Jerry Borunda, Traffic Officer, Transportation, 3 months



"Win a championship in softball."

— Douglas Aleman, Traffic Officer, Transportation, 4 months



"Have a new baby with my wife."

— Paul Harvey, Traffic Officer, Transportation, 3.5 years

## Corrections:

In the December issue's Retiree list, the number of years of service was incorrect for Isom Holmes, Rec and Parks. He retired with 31 years of service.

Also, in the LAPD Cops for Tots story, we inadvertently dropped one photo. Here is the missing photo, with its outline. *Alive!* regrets these errors and omissions.



From left: Cece Tatum, Clerk Typist; Capt. Andrew Smith, Commanding Officer, Central Community Police Station, Club Member; and Melanie Gay, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member.





## Keeping Us Safe

■ Downtown businesses say thanks for public safety employees.

Story by Bev Haro, Club Counselor; Photos by Sunny Lam, Club Tech Guru



**POLICE, FIRE DEPTS.** — The Downtown Center Business Improvement District and Downtown Businesses hosted the annual Public Safety Appreciation Barbeque to thank the men and women of the Fire Dept., Police Dept., County Sheriff's Dept., the CHP and Transportation for their time, energy and support in keeping Downtown Los Angeles safe. The event took place Oct. 21 in Pershing Square.

Proceeds from the public benefited the Los Angeles Firemen's Relief Association, which supports injured and fallen firefighters and their surviving families. Uniformed members of public safety agencies were acknowledged during brief remarks and, thanks to the generosity of Downtown LA business, were fed for free.



# Tuned in



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



## This Month on Channel 35

### Hello, Club Members!

It's great to write this new monthly column for fellow City employees.

Let me introduce myself. I'm Tony Ighani, Station Manager of LA Cityview 35, the City's cable television channel.

I am privileged to have been part of this great station for so many years. Bringing critical information to our viewers about their City government may not be high-rating blockbuster entertainment, but the content we present can make a real difference in people's lives.

More and more, viewers recognize the importance of local non-commercial stations like LA Cityview 35 because it allows us to bridge our diverse and expansive communities, bringing them together through effective communications and technology. I invite you to watch LA Cityview 35 because it is Your City, Your Channel. Let me know what you think: write to me at the e-mail address listed at the bottom.

There are more than a dozen other original series that can be seen on LA Cityview 35. For a full listing visit [www.lacityview.org](http://www.lacityview.org).

### Highlights for January:

**Flavors of LA** Premieres: Jan. 9 at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Host Councilman Eric Garcetti of Council District 13 tours neighborhood restaurants with his guide, Councilwoman Jan Perry, Council District 9. They explore culture and diversity in LA through ethnic cuisine.

**LA Roundtable** Premieres: Jan. 2 at 1:30 and 8 p.m.

An original discussion series, LA Cityview 35 brings together stakeholders in the City to discuss and explore solutions to critical issues facing our great City.

**Ask the Mayor** Premieres: Jan. 4 at 9:30 p.m.

Watch the monthly interview with Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa with live calls from KFVB radio listeners who ask the hard questions for a one-on-one with the City leader.



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. For a full list programming or to get more information about LA Cityview 35, call (213) 485-7561 or visit [www.lacityview.org](http://www.lacityview.org)

Contact Tony with your questions:  
[channel35@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:channel35@cityemployeesclub.com)

See you on LA Cityview 35!

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Independent Member



# History Comes Alive!

Tales From the City Archives



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

# Pieces of Silver

## ■ From his association with Abe Lincoln to the founding of Silver Lake, City pioneer Herman Silver was a man of distinction.

In 1978, I was a graduate student in history at the University of Utah. My focus had been on American Jewish history in the American West during the 19th century. My Master's thesis was about Jews of the Intermountain West from 1826-85. My source for this reference book was the Anglo-Jewish press of that time in America, and this is when I discovered Herman Silver (1830-13). He was a true Los Angeles pioneer.

I found Herman Silver far different than most pioneers who moved west in the United States. He was not your average pioneer searching for a new life, a means of finding self-identity for either himself or his family. He was not a pauper or a peddler looking for a permanent occupation in new undiscovered territory. And he definitely was not someone looking to strike it rich in mining for gold or silver in the mountains of the glorious virgin West.

When I discovered Herman in the Anglo-Jewish press, he had moved to Denver, Colo., in 1873 with his family.

According to different references, he arrived to become the assayer or superintendent of the Mint in Colorado. In the burgeoning Jewish community in Denver, Silver was revered for his education and the ability to be a lay-rabbi. He also was established socially and politically. As a matter of fact, upon his 25th wedding anniversary, there was a large celebration attended by the Governor of Colorado, James Grant, and his wife.

But by 1883, Herman Silver stopped appearing in the newspapers I was using in my study. I knew he had not died because there was no eulogy in any of the papers. What I soon discovered was that he and his family moved to Los Angeles, where he became a member of the Los Angeles City Council, ran for Mayor and became a commissioner on the first Board of the Los Angeles Water Commission.

So, let me give you an overview of Herman Silver's illustrious life.

Herman was born July 21, 1830, about 140 miles southwest of Hamburg, Germany, which was then referred to as Prussian Saxony, now East Germany. He was one of six children. Little is known about his parents or siblings. According to rabbi and historian William Kramer, Herman was a bright child in both secular and Hebraic studies; he aspired to become a rabbi. But for health reasons, when he was 18, he suffered from what was then referred to as the "attack of fever." His parents then allowed him to board a ship for America for health reasons.

When he arrived in the United States he moved to Montreal, Quebec, Canada. He had met a Roman Catholic priest from Montreal, and they made a decision to teach each other Hebrew and English. Herman moved to Canada for two years, where he began an affiliation with the Masonic Order that continued throughout the remainder of his life. Herman Silver left Canada at 20. He traveled to New York, the South and Midwest.

The 1860 census lists Mr. Silver in Peru, Illinois. During this period, he married Eliza Post. He was known to have been an Abraham Lincoln supporter, having met Lincoln that year. In 1863 and 1864, Herman served as assistant assessor of Internal

Revenue for the Second Division of the Sixth District of Illinois. Also, legal directories from Ottawa City, Ill., noted that he was an attorney in 1866 and 1867. It was noted that, during those years, he came to know future President Ulysses Grant and Colonel John C. Fremont, of the famous California expedition. Because of his health problems he never joined the military, but he did help recruit men for the Union Army during the Civil War.

Once again, "lung congestion" became an issue for Silver. His doctor recommended that he move to Colorado, where there were many health centers to help him. This meant he had to refuse an appointment as United States Marshall of the Dakota Territory. He arrived in Denver in 1874, where he was granted a Federal appointment to the United States Land Office. In Denver he became involved in politics and became the national deputy for the State of Colorado for the Republican Union League of America. On April 27, 1877, President Grant made him the manager of the Denver Mint, a position he held for eight years. Herman was also involved in private sector work as well. He held executive positions on the Denver Tribune and was auditor and treasurer for the receivership of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad.

Illness was once again the reason the Silvers moved, this time to California. He now needed a warmer, milder environment. His family did not move directly to Los Angeles but instead first to San Bernardino. In 1887, he was asked by the president of the Acheson, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad to become secretary treasurer of the consolidated lines in California. It becomes apparent that Herman and his family moved to Los Angeles while continuing that work. There is also mentioned in the bible of early Los Angeles history, Harris Newmark's book, *Sixty Years in Southern California: 1853-1913*, that

Herman, at the same time, "obtained a franchise for the construction of a double-track cable railway in Los Angeles," with a James F. Crank.

Little is known about Herman Silver in Los Angeles for almost a decade, with the exception of his involvement within the local Jewish community found in the Anglo-Jewish press. But on Dec. 18, 1896, there is a filing notice that Herman Silver would be running for Los Angeles City Council from the Fourth Ward. From 1870 to 1909, the City Council was divided into wards. At that time there were nine wards, each one having one Councilman. In 1896, the Los Angeles Times stated that Herman Silver ran under the banner of "A League for Better City Government," and he had 4,500 supporters. The Fourth Ward representatives were behind Herman Silver. It was noted that, "he would be a...Councilman, not a politician."

Upon Herman's election to Council at 67 years old, he was nominated and voted in as City Council President in 1897; at times he was the Mayor pro tem when the Mayor was away from the City. Silver ran a second time for City Council as a Republican.

He once again was voted in as Council President. In the January 2, 1899, City Council minutes, C.H. Toll, Councilman from the Fifth Ward, gave the following remarks about Hon. Herman Silver at the close of the prior session:

"Our heartfelt expression of praise and thankfulness for the just equitability and fearless manner in

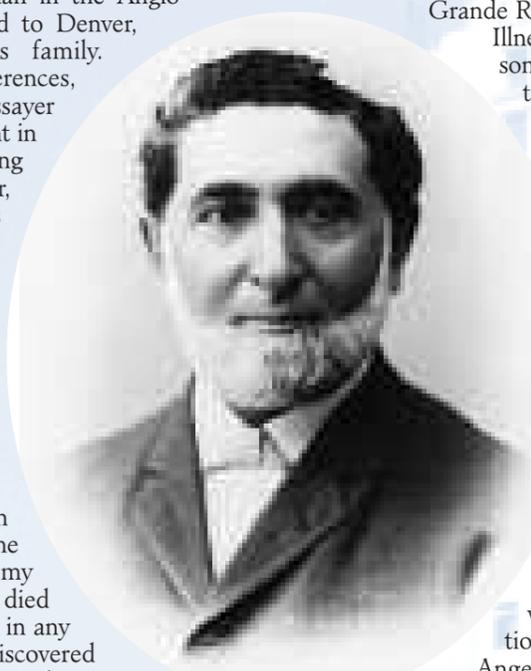
which he has ever conducted the deliberations of our body ... he has made the rough places smooth and easy ... and for the inspiring influence defused throughout our tired team of officers. By his ... self-sacrificing devotion to the interests of the municipality he serves."

During Herman's second term, water issues continued to be an overriding problem in Los Angeles. A lease on the Los Angeles City Water Works Co., owned by Griffith-Beaudry-Lazard, ran out. The original contract between the private company and the City stated that upon expiration of the agreement the City would take over the company for an arbitrated price of \$2 million. In 1902, the City Council approved emergency ordinance 7554 (NS), establishing an administrative board of seven water commissioners. The Hon. Herman Silver was chosen as one of the seven members. But, we're getting ahead of ourselves.

The Hon. Herman Silver's term was completed in 1900. It should be noted that, during that era, terms of office lasted two years. He was asked to run again for the City Council, but he decided, after much deliberation and discussion, to run for Mayor as a Republican delegate instead. His opponent was Meredith "Pinky" Snyder, who eventually became Mayor three times. Herman received accolades in the press upon his declaration as a candidate. But politics being what they are, Herman lost the election. It has been rumored that he lost because he was too old, and there was anti-Semitic sentiment in the City.

Nevertheless, in 1902, Herman was elected President of the newly formed Water Commission. The following year it became an appointed commission by the Mayor. It was cut to five members, and Herman Silver was not reappointed. Upon his retirement from the Board of Water Commissioners, the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants and Manufacturers Association gave resolutions in his honor. It was this type of recognition that brought the new Board to name a reservoir in Los Angeles the Herman Silver Lake. This action was the precursor to the area of Los Angeles known as Silver Lake.

In 1903, Governor George C. Pardee appointed Silver to the California State Bank Commission; he became its president for two terms. Hon. Herman Silver retired from public service in 1908. He passed away Aug. 19, 1913, from a heart attack at the age of 83, leaving his wife and two children. Neither of his children had children of their own.



... In 1818, the Avila Adobe was built by former Mayor of the Ayuntamiento (Mexican city council) Francisco Avila. It is the City's oldest remaining building located on Olvera Street.



Recruitment, from left: Gary Kennedy and Steve Getz.



The giving of a certificate for the open house, from left: Capt. Joel M. Justice, Patrol Division Commanding Officer, with Councilman Dennis Zine.



Daryl Scoggins, P2, and Sgt. Steve Richards with the Underwater Dive Unit.



Haley, 6, daughter of Deputy Chief Mike Moore, with Mounted Platoon Officer Matt Bennyworth, Club Member, and his horse, Skip.

# West Valley Open House

## ■ West Valley police station holds its first open house.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

POLICE DEPT. — The public was invited to a special event Nov. 12 showcasing the law enforcement facilities and selected police and fire equipment at the West Valley Community Police Station in Reseda.

Attendees to the open function could explore the community station and jail, experience being in the command seat of a patrol car and motorcycle, and meet members of the Los Angeles Police Department's SWAT, K-9 and



Mounted Horse Units.

The West Valley Community Station encouraged community families to attend and enjoy complimentary refreshments. Off-road vehicles and an LAPD funny car dragster were also at the event for viewing. Special LAPD units, including the LAPD's Dive Unit, had a display available at the free event.

This open house was an excellent opportunity to highlight the LAPD's community policing efforts to the diverse communities it serves.

The Club thanks Capt. John A. Sherman, Capt. Joel M. Justice, Sgt.

Martin Fentress, Victor Monro and Tim Cruz for their assistance.



Tom with Sgt. Kreefft and Haley, daughter of Deputy Chief Mike Moore.



From left: Councilman Dennis Zine with Capt. John A. Sherman, Area Commanding Officer.



Tim Cruz, ITA, Club Member, next to a 1962 Dodge Seneca.



The Bike Unit, from left: Jennifer Poepke, P2, with David Miner, P2.



From left: Elliot Zibli, P2, Narcotics Division, K-9 Squad, with his partner, Arco



From left: Nancy Sweeney, Volunteer; Marilyn Robinson, Volunteer; Irma Pomposo, Council District 3 Field Deputy; and Michael Besem, Council District 3 Director, Club Member.



Sgt. Fentress with Jacob, 4, and his grandmother Millie Hamilton, C-PAB.



Sgt. Roland Fogel, Assistant Watch Commander.



From left: Maricela Vargas, P2, Jeopardy Officer, with Mert Cohen, Volunteer.



Steve Weaver, P3, an element member of the Metro SWAT Unit.



Kathy Kravitz, PSR II.



The crowd gathers for demonstration by narcotics dog Arco.



Chad Gallaway, P2, at the Weapons Station.



From left: Tony Valadez, SLO; Capt. John A. Sherman, Area Commanding Officer, and Victor B. Monroe, SLO.



Valley Traffic, from left: Rich Prindle, Motor Officer; Tim Gallick, Motor Officer; and Sgt. Michael Harrington.

# Harbor Orientation

■ Harbor continues its periodic orientation days for new employees.

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



**HARBOR** — The Port of LA held an orientation Nov. 30 for new employees. The employees consisted of those new to the City and those who transferred from other departments through lateral or promotions. The Club once again provided the bagels, muffins and juices served in the morning. The orientation ended with a two-hour boat tour aboard Angelina II. The Club thanks Martin Chavez for his assistance.



From left: Mike Newell, Electrician, 2 years; and Barbara Brunt, Clerk Typist, 3 months.



Royna Williams, Management Aid, 20 years, Club Member.



Shawn Olson, Maintenance & Construction Helper, 4.5 years.



Abe Rashid, Principal Accountant, 12 years.



From left: Mike Newell, Electrician, 2 years; Mike De Lang, Electrician, 7 years; and Jack Dahlstrom, Electrician, 1.5 years, Club Member.



From left: Linda Burns, AV Technician, 1 month; and Diana Henderson, Public Affairs.



From left: Maurice Jacobs, Construction Service Worker, 7 years; Donna Givens, Clerk Typist, 6 months; and Evelyn Kelley, Management Analyst II, 10 years, Club Member.



Mayra Heredia, Security Officer, 4 months, Club Member, is the first female Security Officer.



From left: Aram Chavdarian, Electrical Engineering Associate, 2 months; Melissa Harne, Civil Engineering Associate, 3 months; and Patrice Marti, Civil Engineering Associate II, 6 years, Club Member.

# Toastmasters Officers

■ Public Works Toastmasters names new officers for 2006.

Story by Yvonne Liu, VP of Public Relations, Pioneers Toastmasters

**PUBLIC WORKS** — For 2006, the Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters are building on their successes into their third year.

Many thanks go to the following Pioneers for putting on two speech contests and adding three more new members during the second half of 2005:

- Bureau of Engineering's Civil Engineering Associate IV Dominic Buenaventura as President
- Management Analyst II Ivan Gerson as Educational Vice President
- Bureau of Engineering's Architectural Associate II Ben Gaetos as Membership Vice President
- Personnel Department's Personnel Analyst II Yvonne Liu as Public Relations Vice President
- Bureau of Engineering's Civil Engineering Associate II Yasmin Hafeez as Treasurer
- Bureau of Street Lighting's Street Lighting Engineering Associate II Tom Nguyen as Secretary, and
- Bureau of Sanitation's Management Associate II Yukari Iwai as Sergeant-at-Arms.

On Dec. 7, members voted in recent speech contest winner, Civil Engineering Associate III Chelsea Li, as their new club president. She will proudly lead 25 members of new and experienced City employees. New member Civil Engineering Associate II Patricia Konkirati of Bureau of Engineering will use her enthusiasm to draw more members from all the bureaus of the Department of Public Works as the Vice President of Membership. The pending move in 2006 to the Broadway Building should certainly help to increase membership as more Public Works divisions will be working under one roof.

Ivan Gerson, Jasmin Hafeez and Yvonne Liu will energetically continue in their former positions. As the Sergeant-at-Arms, Dominic Buenaventura will help set up each meeting and Bureau of Engineering's Management Analyst II Jennifer Lau will record all minutes as Secretary. She will send the minutes out promptly until her term ends, as the other officers, in July.

Be sure to visit the Public Works Pioneers, catch exciting speakers, pick up tips on oral communication and leadership, and build confidence in your next presentation or job interview. Merry Christmas and visit us in the New Year!

For more information, please contact Ivan Gerson (213) 847-8844 or Yvonne Liu (213) 473-3914.

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# Central Boosters

## ■ Central Traffic Division launches Traffic Safety Booster Program.



**POLICE DEPT.** — Central Traffic Division (CTD), committed to Community-Based Policing, recently launched the LAPD Traffic Safety Booster program (LAPDTSB), designed to improve CTD operations and enhance public safety.

The Traffic Safety Booster program is a partnership between CTD and residential and business communities in Operations-Central Bureau. The organization provides financial support for the purchase of tangible items including computers, color printers and VCRs that improve the effectiveness of CTD, resulting in a higher level of service to the

community. In addition to providing traffic safety equipment, the LAPDTSB works in conjunction with Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) to enhance Community Policing.

The Traffic Safety Booster program also supports youth development through participation in Explorer Scouts and Road Crossing Programs. The net effect of the LAPDTSB is a "win/win" situation for both the Department and the community.

Spearheaded by Capt. Ann E. Young and Police Officer Jose Ricky Rodriguez, the LAPDTSB was launched July 15 with ten inaugural members from the community, including:

- President: Ray Shahin
- Vice President: Garo Keurjikian
- Secretary: Marilyn Irizarry
- Treasurer: Abdel Bishay
- Special Officers: Craig Settles, Joel Keurjikian, Vahe Awazian, George Nofal, Anoush Sadegh and Leo Mejia.

In addition to donating their time and providing financial support, Ray Shahin, Abdel Bishay, Philip Homsey II and Garo Keurjikian



Central Traffic Safety Boosters, from left: Joel Keurjikian, Karo Keurjikian, "Ricky" Rodriguez, Leo Mejia, Vahe Awazian, Cayler Carter, Craig Settles, Abdel Bishay, George Nofal, Ann Young, Marilyn Irizarry and Ray Shahin.

have chosen to expand their commitment to public service by becoming Los Angeles Police Reserve Officers (LAPD).

Central Traffic looks forward to a long and happy partnership with LAPDTSB that will benefit both the Department and community for years to come.

## \$500 BONUS FOR ALL CURRENT AND RETIRED CITY EMPLOYEES POLICE OFFICER RECRUITMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM (PORIP)

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**ELIGIBLE** — Anyone a candidate who will succeed in an exciting and rewarding career as a Police Officer or Reserve Police Officer with the Los Angeles Police Department. Both the recruit and APO for candidate must complete and sign the Police Officer Recruitment Incentive Program (PORIP) card.

**NEW!** It is the recruit's responsibility to submit the PORIP card. This card may be turned in at any time prior to, but no later than 90 days after the candidate takes the Physical Ability Test for the first time.

The completed PORIP card must be sent directly to the City Personnel Department, Public Safety Bureau, 2016 Temple Street, Room 150, Los Angeles, 90012, attn: PORIP Analyst. The bonus will not apply if all candidates are not met.

**ELIGIBLE** — The recruit also certifies that the card has been received and that the candidate is eligible for the program by calling (213) 607-9000. Ask for the PORIP analyst. Note: The Candidate must have entered the process after April 30, 2005 to be eligible.

**NOTE:** The PORIP bonus will be processed upon verification of the Police Officer candidate's appointment to the Police Academy, or upon graduation from Academy training for Reserve Police Officer candidates.

### POLICE OFFICER MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- 21-75 Years of Age - 18 years of age for Reserve Police Officer
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- U.S. Citizen or Have Applied for Citizenship
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To qualify the current or retired City employee must be a member of the City Council or City Employees Retirement System (LACERS) or an active Reserve Officer of the Law. The candidate is supported by organizations from the Police Academy. Participants involved in the recruitment, screening, testing and/or selection of candidates for City employment as Police Officers are not eligible.

Bonus payment will be issued directly to the recipient as described below.

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**CALL PORIP ANALYST AT 213.647.9000 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

# New Chief Wharfinger

## ■ Club Member Diane Boskovich is named to post.

**HARBOR** — Diane Boskovich, a 29-year Port of Los Angeles veteran, has been promoted from Assistant Chief Wharfinger – a position she held for the last three years – to Chief Wharfinger.



Diane Boskovich is a Club Member.

In her new role, Boskovich plans, organizes and directs the activities of both wharfinger and administrative staff in the collection of all shipping service fees and assessments in accordance with Port tariffs and agreements. She is also responsible for the compilation and distribution of the Port's monthly container statistics, which show that the Port of Los Angeles is currently ranked number one in the nation.

Port of Los Angeles wharfingers monitor all waterborne activities occurring within Port areas and serve as the primary contact for the operational needs of customers and collection of all shipping service fees as authorized by the Federal Maritime Association and California Association of Port Authorities. Operationally, wharfingers monitor the use of Port facilities by verifying shipping contract compliance, coordinating vessel-berthing requirements, interpreting Port of Los Angeles Tariff No. 4 and performing inspections of facilities.

"Diane Boskovich has established valuable relationships with Port customers, and she is a tremendous asset in our efforts to keep customer-related business operations on-course without interruptions," said Interim Executive Director Bruce E. Seaton. "She has come up through the Port of Los Angeles ranks and knows the Wharfinger Division bottom to top."

During her tenure at the Port, Boskovich has been credited with producing the Wharfinger Division's first procedure manual and developing a database that correctly invoiced power costs to customers operating Port-owned container cranes. She will continue to serve as a liaison to some of the Port's busiest customers, including Evergreen, Yusen and APM Terminals.

In addition to her years of experience in the Wharfinger Division, Boskovich also worked as a student worker in the Port's Planning and Research Division while attending Mary Star of the Sea High School in San Pedro.

Boskovich holds a certificate in Marine Terminal Management Training, a program jointly sponsored by the U.S. Maritime Administration, American Association of Port Authorities and National Association of Stevedores. She is also a member of the Propeller Club of Los Angeles/Long Beach.

A San Pedro native, Boskovich lives in Rancho Palos Verdes with her husband, Nick, and their four children.



At the street-lighting ceremony were, from left: Stan Horwitz, Bureau of Street Lighting Senior Engineer and host for the ceremony, and Johnny Grant, Honorary Mayor of Hollywood.



Flipping the "switch" to turn on the new decorative street lighting on Hollywood Boulevard were (foreground, from left) Councilman Eric Garcetti and Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. Also pictured are (background, from left) Bureau of Street Lighting Director Ed Ebrahimiyan, Honorary Mayor of Hollywood Johnny Grant (with glasses) and Public Works Board President Cynthia Ruiz. The other two people in the background are unidentified.



Board of Public Works President Cynthia Ruiz at the street-lighting ceremony.

# Hollywood Lighting

## ■ Mayor Villaraigosa turns on the new decorative streetlights in Hollywood.

Story and photos courtesy Richard Lee, Public Works

**PUBLIC WORKS** — Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa pulled the ceremonial switch to activate the new streetlights on Hollywood Boulevard Nov.15.

Activation ceremonies for the Hollywood Crossroads Project began at approximately 5:45 p.m., after the mayor departed the Metro Red Line at the Hollywood and Vine Station and exited to the plaza at Hollywood Boulevard and Argyle Avenue. Council Member Eric Garcetti and LAPD Capt. Ron Sanchez of the Hollywood Community Police Station joined the mayor in the ceremony. Honorary Hollywood Mayor Johnny Grant took part as well.

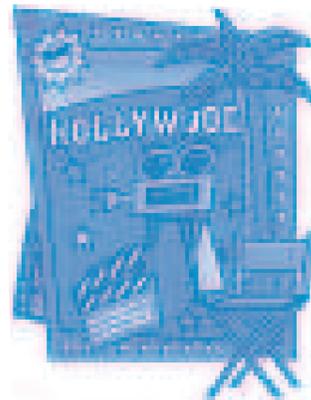
"This project has refurbished 154 streetlights

along the 'Walk of Fame' on Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street," said Bureau of Street Lighting Executive Director Ed Ebrahimiyan. "Special three-lamp fixtures modeled after the ones that lined the street in the 1930s have replaced existing lamps. Improvements include a pedestrian light that is oriented over the sidewalk."

The Public Works Bureau of Street Lighting coordinated design and incorporated input and requests from the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, the Hollywood Entertainment District and local community groups. The

new street lighting system is installed on Hollywood Boulevard from Gower Street to Sycamore Avenue and on Vine Street from Yucca Street to Sunset Boulevard.

New lighting levels meet Bureau of Street Lighting standards, reduce glare, and provide increased safety at night to benefit and enhance the pedestrian environment.



# 'Excellent' Projects

## ■ Three projects at Public Works win awards for excellence.

**PUBLIC WORKS** — The Southern California Chapter of the American Public Works Association recognized three Public Works projects for excellence at the association's 2005 Awards Luncheon Dec. 8.

Two were honored as Projects of the Year. They are: the City of Los Angeles Northeast Interceptor Sewer Project; and the City of Los Angeles Dental Offices and Clinics Wastewater Permit Program. The third award was for the department's special National Public Works Week kickoff event held earlier this year at City Hall called "Honoring Public Works Employees for Service in Record Breaking Rainstorm." The kickoff ceremony honored more than 300 employees for providing service "above and beyond the call of duty" during the record-breaking rainstorm of January 2005.

APWA recognizes public agencies for outstanding public works projects and programs completed during the calendar year. Projects or programs are selected from the following criteria: cost effectiveness, positive impact on residents' quality of life, positive community impact, improvement of aesthetics, and visual appeal. Further,

projects or programs should address an unmet community need, improve the environment, improve safety or help prevent property damage, cooperate with other agencies or entities in completion, exhibit unique design and comprise notable planning.






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## WORKINGMATTERS

by JACKIE DAVID, Public Information Director, Public Safety Division, Personnel



# Forget Resolutions; Map Your Dreams

Making New Year's resolutions and then breaking them – it's a given with every New Year. This phenomenon has been covered, written about, explored, exposed and just beaten to death. And dead it is.

Why not do something different: Instead of drawing up New Year's resolutions (which I inevitably break), I like instead to work on my life and dreams map – you know, spend some quality time with myself to take a hard look at where I've been the past year and figure out how I can make my life (and the lives of my children) better.

I daydream and mull over my dreams – what are they? What's the best one of all? Will money make the difference? What about family time and the overall quality of life? What do I value most? What would I like to see happen to improve my life? Once I figure this out, I sit down with pen and paper in hand and start drawing my life's roadmap and the map to my dreams: from here (set date) to there (the end, as in burial) – and everything else in between. I then take my calendar and start figuring out the "whens" of it all. This gives me something to really look forward to, whether it's a vacation or a career, health or financial goal.

Having come up with a map, I make sure to give myself daily reminders to help me stay the course throughout the year:

- Make sure your goals are aligned with your life's mission, purpose and passion. What is your purpose in life? What are your life's core values? (Ask yourself what drives you, in your heart, and you should have your answers to these questions.)
- Create heart-felt goals high enough to set fire to that passion in you. Heart-felt goals are those that excite, motivate and drive you and, while some may not be achievable in the near future, goals that are heart-felt will help you draw your map to the stars. Reach high to drive from deep within you.
- Put your goals on paper. If you can't commit to listing your goals, then you cannot commit to your goals. It's as simple as that. Be specific and detailed about each goal. What exactly do you want? When would you like it by? Writing down your goals is the first step to achievement and, ultimately, success.
- Commit to your goals, unconditionally. Your passion is what should drive your commitment. Write down why you are committing to each goal.
- Share your goals. Get others on board to either share your goals or be aware of them. If your goal is financial, for example, then call a family meeting and share your goal so that your family understands where you (and ultimately, they) are headed.

*Where are you going?*

*What are you doing (to get there)?*

*Focus.*

It makes a lot of sense: Know where you are going. Get yourself a map to guide you to your destination, and then focus and start walking, running, or driving to get to your destination. I ask myself constantly: Is what you are doing, at this moment, going to get you to where you would like to be?

As I prepare for this insightful time, I like to review and share my tip sheet for creating life's road map and the map to one's dreams.

**Focus.** Identify your target(s). What would you like to improve in your life? Is it your career? Finances? Relationships? Health? Create precise targets you can aim for to realize your dreams.

**Set goals.** Define what you expect. This provides you with purpose.

When reaching for the stars, set goals that build upon each other and provide a step-by-step staircase to the stars. Start with short-term goals (two to three months) and build up to medium term (six months to one year) to long-term goals (over the next five years). What do you need to do to get where you are going?

**Picture. Imagine. Evision.** See your goals happening in your mind's eye. Reinforce your passion and commitment by imagining what it would be like to have your dreams come true. Anticipate their fruition. Fuel your passion and commitment with your vision. Feel it. Live it.

Do what you need to do every single day to bring you closer to your goals. You have the map. Now you need to start taking steps and walking down that road every day or start your climb toward the stars.

Having shared these tips, I wish all *Alive!* readers the best as you sit down to map out your dreams, knowing that they will indeed guide you towards a truly Happy New Year!



For Retired Club Members



# The Best Years

## City Retiree Associations:

### DWP Retirees Association



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

Dolores Foley, President

### Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association



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

James Chastain, President

### Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



**Ed Harding, President**  
**www.rlacei.com**  
**Contact him: (805) 584-9417**  
**or via E-mail: postmaster@rlacei.com**

Ed Harding, RLACEI President

#### Change of Address?

If you change your address, notify Helen Salgado, Membership Chair, at 323-728-4930, or write to her at 5423 Dewar St., Los Angeles, CA 90022. Also notify LACERS.

#### Have News About Yourself?

Contact Phil Skarin, 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or call (818) 784-0130.

## RLACEI: Two New Reps Named to LACERS Board

By Phil Skarin, Publicity Chair, RLACEI



RLACEI — Ed Harding, RLACEI President, reports: "Our Christmas Party Dec. 8 at the Grace E. Simons Lodge was an outstanding affair. Over 200 attended, most of whom had made reservations. Sandy Mack entertained by singing appropriate holiday songs, while we enjoyed a delicious lunch."

Some of the special guests in attendance were: Robert Aguillo Jr., General Manager, LACERS; Lori Kozlowski, Editor, El Pueblo; and several from the City Employees Club: John Hawkins, President/CEO; Arlene Herrero, Counselor; Michelle Moreno, Events Guru; and Robert Larios, Director of Communications and Marketing.

Rick Rogers, Commissioner, LACERS Board of Administration, installed the following Directors to two-year terms on the RLACEI Executive Board beginning Jan. 1: Hal Danowitz, Americo Garza, Neil Ricci, Phil Skarin, Tom Stemmok and Bob Wilkinson. Wilkinson had been elected to a one-year term as the First Vice President by the Executive Board beginning Jan. 1.

Sandra Dyson, LACERS, attempted to clear up any confusion about Medicare Part D, which will be included in our LACERS medical plans. So, you need not do anything to take advantage of it. If you have any questions about your health benefits, call (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328 for assistance.

President Bush will now send birthday cards only to those who will be 100 or older. If you will be, send your name, address, phone



number, age and date of birth to Ed Harding at 2890 Waterfall Lane, Simi, CA 93065, and he will make the arrangements.

"I want to thank Americo Garza for making all the party arrangements, Phil Skarin for the excellent publicity, and Greg Spiker for arranging the courtesy taxi service," Harding concluded.

#### Legislative Update:

- **Ken Spiker, our legislative representative and LACERS Commissioner, said if you are receiving health care services not now covered by our LACERS plans, drop him a line explaining what service is excluded and he will try to get it included in future programs. Write to him at 1100 South Flower St., #2100, Los Angeles, CA 90015-2115. Thanks Ken for continuing to represent us so ably!**
- **The mayor has appointed two new members of the LACERS Board of Managers: Kelly Candaele and Adolfo Nodal, a retiree.**
- **Retired or semi-retired grading inspectors are needed for part-time work for a developer. Call Harry B. Dictor at (818) 344-7444.**
- **The Los Angeles Federal Credit Union has partnered with local auto dealers through the Credit Union Direct Lending Program. You can now select a car at the best price and get on-the-spot low-rate credit union financing. Go to your Credit Union's Website www.lafcu.org for directions about the CUDL programs.**

## RLACEI Upcoming Events:

- April 13: General Membership Meeting at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center**
- June 6: Golf Tournament at the Alhambra Golf Course**
- Aug. 10: Picnic at the Grace E. Simons Lodge**
- Oct. 12: Annual Corporation Meeting and Elections at VN/SO Senior Center**
- Dec. 7: Christmas Party at the Grace E. Simons Lodge**

## The Best Years

ADVENTURES  
with HAL!

The fountains at Peterhof.

By Hal Danowitz,  
Secretary, RLACEI

## Retiree Hotlines

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

**City Employees Retirement System:** (213) 473-7200

**RLACEI Retirement Counselors:**

- Edward Harding (805) 584-9417
- Phil Skarin (818) 784-0130
- Robert Wilkinson (818) 886-1000
- Jerry Bardwell (818) 782-5568
- Harold Danowitz (310) 472-0224
- Jack Mathews (310) 762-1942
- Helen Salgado (323) 728-4930 (membership)
- Americo Garza (562) 928-2051
- Neil Ricci (310) 394-1971

**DWP Retirement Plan Office:** (213) 367-1722

**RLACEI:****Officers for 2005**

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

**Committee Chairpersons for 2005**

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

**Directors**

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



## Grandeur of St. Pete

■ In this fourth installment detailing Hal's northern European cruise, he and his entourage dock at St. Petersburg, Russia.

St. Petersburg, Russia, was the highlight of our northern European cruise aboard the Celebrity Cruise ship Constellation. My mother's family was from Russia, and I looked forward to returning to the country of my foremothers. The last time any member of my family was in Russia, Czar Nicholas II was still in power and my grandparents were fleeing from the Cossacks.

St. Petersburg sits on the eastern shore of the Gulf of Finland, in the delta of the River Neva, some 400 miles northwest of Moscow. The city, with a population of more than five million, boasts the largest seaport in the country. The city is built on a series of islands spread over a wide area, in an attractive plan of large city squares, parks, boulevards and broad avenues. A network of 60 rivers and canals crisscross the city and are spanned by about 400 bridges. The principal waterway is the River Neva, contained within impressive granite banks, and it was along this river that Russian classicism flourished during the 18th and 19th centuries.

St. Petersburg is relatively young for a European city – less than three centuries have passed since the first structure, the Peter and Paul Fortress, was built by Peter the Great in 1703. The city has a rich cultural and political history, being both the home of the Imperial Royal Family and the cradle of the Proletarian Revolution, for it was here that Lenin began his revolutionary activity and laid the foundations of communism.



Evelyn at Pushkin.

In 1914, at the start of World War I, the city's name was changed to Petrograd as it was considered less Germanic. In October 1917 the Bolsheviks, Lenin's Communist party, seized power, and the Soviet state was established.

By 1918 the seat of government was moved to Moscow, and in 1924, when Lenin died, Petrograd was renamed Leningrad in his honor. During World War II, Leningrad withstood a 900-day siege by the Germans. The city was rebuilt into a major industrial and scientific center after the war. In 1991, the Soviet Union disintegrated, Boris Yeltsin became president, and in the first democratic election, the people of the city voted to change the name of Leningrad back to St. Petersburg.

Our ship docked in a commercial shipping area about a 30-minute drive from the city. We had been awakened by the welcoming music of a Russian band playing "When the Saints Go Marching In." While the Russian authorities were clearing the ship, the band continued to play American music to entertain us. It seemed out of place but it was entertaining, and as I left the ship I tipped the band. We noticed that at most tourist attraction there were bands playing.

We were docked at St. Petersburg for two days. Because of the visa restrictions imposed by the Russian government, we had to take tours offered by the ship. The first day we visited the suburbs of St. Petersburg to see Pushkin, the summer residence of the Russian Czars; we saw the palace of Catherine the Great; and then we went to Peterhof to see the Grand Palace of Peter the Great. That evening we attended a concert at the State Academy of Fine Arts and then took a night cruise on the Neva. It was called a "White Nights" cruise because at that time of the year the sun did not set until midnight. The next day we toured St. Petersburg and visited the Hermitage. It was a full schedule with 36 hours of touring.

Tsarskoye Selo, also known as the Tsar's Village or Pushkin, is the site of Catherine's Palace. It is located about 17 miles south of St. Petersburg in a 1,482-acre park and was built in the mid-18th century and named in the honor of Peter the Great's wife; it was the summer residence of the imperial family from the time of Peter until the fall of the monarchy in 1917. The palace's aqua-colored façade is nearly 1,000 feet long and decorated with gold and white ornaments. Before entering the palace we were required to wear shoe covering on to protect the wood floors. It is hard to put into words the grandeur of each room that we visited in the palace; each one seemed more opulent than the previous one. The gem of the palace is the Amber Room, once considered to be the "Eighth Wonder of the World." The panels were too heavy to dismantle when World War II broke out, so they were looted by the Nazis, sent to Germany and never seen again. Photographs and archives helped Russian art experts fashion thin amber pieces to exactly match the originals in shape and color and to curve fine ornaments, thus recreating the legendary work of art. Much of the palace had been damaged during the war, and great care had been taken to restore it to the pre-war condition. Each room had a guard, usually an older woman, making sure that we did not touch anything. Our tour took about an hour and a half and we exited into the French Garden, laid out in geometric patterns.

After lunch at a local restaurant we made a one-hour drive to Peterhof, 22 miles west of St. Petersburg on the Gulf of Finland. Built in 1723 as a summer home of Peter the Great, it was intended to rival Versailles. Mostly destroyed during World War II, painstaking work, using old plans, photographs and descriptions, made it possible to recreate the famous palace and park with fountains considered among the world's most precious historical sights. While the interior of the palace was magnificent, the real centerpiece of Peterhof was the gardens. Peter himself drafted the layout of the 300-acre park, including the spectacular system of fountains that cascade throughout the grounds. The elaborate system includes four cascades as well as 173 fountains, all powered by gravity.

We returned to the ship for a quick dinner before our concert and river cruise.

As luck would have it, Vladimir Putin, the Russian President, was in town and we were caught in a traffic jam that caused us to be over an hour late for the concert, which could not begin until we arrived. Also, we had our first taste of bad weather as it began to rain very hard. Between the bus and the Fine Arts Building, we got very wet. The concert featured a small group of folk singers and musicians performing a folkloric concert, which I found very entertaining. It was still raining when we left the concert and we crossed the Neva River to board the riverboat. We were already an hour behind schedule



Hal and Evelyn, with the Hermitage in the background.

and in a bad mood because of the weather, but once we boarded the boat and had a few shots of vodka, everyone felt a lot better. It was still very light outside, but the windows were steamy and we couldn't see very much. We did get a nice view of the Hermitage and the Winter Palace. The entertainers on board gave a great performance of Russian songs and dances and they even got me up on stage as part of the show. After the river cruise, on the way back to our ship, we stopped for some shopping. Because of the restriction of our visa, we had the chance to shop in stores only as we toured or with street vendors. We were told that no one would take dollars, but that is all anyone wanted. We did buy a nice nested doll set and a lacquer box, and a few porcelain dolls for our granddaughters.

The next day the weather was much better and we started our tour of St. Petersburg with a stop at the Navel Church, with a short stop at a synagogue. We also stopped at St. Isaac's Square to see the Bronze Horseman.

The highlight of the day's tour was a visit to the Hermitage Museum. The enormous complex is comprised of five buildings on the banks of the Neva River that once formed the Winter Palace. Tours were allowed in one hour before the general public so we were able to get a good start before it became crowded.

The Hermitage contains more than three million exhibits displaying some of the world's greatest art treasures. There is no way you can see everything, so our three hours were spent visiting the Gala Suite of apartment and the artwork of the Italian Renaissance, including Da Vinci and Rafael. The rooms themselves were magnificent to see, with many chandeliers and elaborate staircases. Our guide told us that if you spent just three minutes with each exhibit it would take you a year and a half to see the whole museum.

After lunch at a local hotel, we visited St. Isaac's Cathedral. Its dome, coated with more than 200 pounds of pure gold, dominates the city skyline. The cathedral can hold 14,000 people, and the walls are heavily ornamented with marble and precious and semi-precious stones.

On the way back to our ship we stopped to take pictures of the Cruiser Aurora, which fired the first shot in the Russian Revolution, and the Church of Our Savior on Spilled Blood.

Our two days of sightseeing were like an appetizer to what you can see in St. Petersburg and in the rest of Russia, and we would like to go back again.

During those two days we heard a lot about the Czar, but very little about communism. It seemed that the 60-plus years had quickly been forgotten and replaced by what were glorious times before and one hopes a better future.

Next month I promise to finish up this cruise with our visits to the three Baltic countries: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

**If you have any comments or questions you can e-mail me at adventureswithhal@cityemployeesclub.com**

# Retiree Question of the Month

Alive! asked retirees...

## What is your New Year's Resolution?

Vic: "I can't remember."  
Pat: "I didn't make any because experience tells me that they're too easy to break."  
- Vic and Pat, Transportation, 32 years



"Living the next year happily."  
- Fred Frazier, Rec and Parks



"Be a good guy."  
- Jack Chester Mathews

"We wish to live another 100 years."  
- Wilma Rebbe, LAPD and her daughter, Rene O'Malley



"Kick our son out of the house...we need peace and quiet!"  
- Vino Buchicchio, retired, Rec and Parks, 36 years, and his wife, Marie



"Travel more."  
- Ben Reyes



"To do as little work as possible."  
- John Shadle, retired, Building and Safety, 18 years, and his wife, Margaret



"Keep on doing what I'm doing."  
- Lee Burrell, retired, Building and Safety, 32.5 years

Angel: "Play more golf."  
Grace: "Stick to my diet."  
- Angel Gonzalez, Building and Safety, 20 years, and his wife, Grace.



"Better serve God."  
- Robert Jacobs, Street Maintenance



"Love more people."  
- Tony Alvarez

"Stay healthy."  
- Charles O. Wilson



"Good health and a great life."  
- Paul Salles, retired, Building and Safety, 30 years, and wife, Agnes.



"Still thinking about it."  
- John Lane

# The Best Years

### RLACEI MEMBER NEWS:

**Florence Davis and Gaetano Toppolo** both turned 93 last month.

**Craig Perkins** and some friends go on a 400-mile bicycling trip each year in different parts of the county. Takes them a leisurely week.

**Beverly Farmer** has a flock of relatives who are or have had City service:

- Ira Farmer, brother-in-law, retired in 1977 after 30 years.
- Wrainey Farmer Sr., brother-in-law, worked 34 years.
- Wrainey Jr., son, worked 20 years.
- John Reamer, nephew, has worked 18 years with Contract Administration.
- Freddier Farmer, Beverly's husband, worked 33 years in Street Maintenance.
- Her sister-in-law worked for 32 years.

That adds up to 168 years and still counting! What a gang!

**Ed Nelson**, West Covina, retired in February 2000 and has been caring for their five grandchildren pretty much full-time. But they did take a trip to Utah, Wyoming, Idaho and Seattle visiting friends and family. Two more grandkids are on the way. Ed is nearly recovered from a recent stroke.

**John Martinez** retired in 1982 after 35 years as a Senior Tree Surgeon. His father, a retired City employee, talked him into applying for a job with Rec and Parks after his discharge from the Army. It was a good choice.

#### Comments from the readers that are appreciated:

- David A. Ross says, "I enjoy your writings, Phil-osophy, poems, etc."
- Tom Meacham says, "Thanks for such a good job you fellows are doing representing us."
- Welton Wyrick says, "I appreciate all the good work you are doing."
- Robert K. De Grandis says, "Thank you for your dedication on behalf of all retired City employees."
- Elroy R. Gonzalez says, "Thank you for your help."

If you have any news about a retiree that you would like to share, send it to:

**Phil Skarin**  
5301 Norwich Ave.  
Van Nuys, CA 91411  
or call (818) 784-0130

## The Best Years

## Financial Advice



Planning and Managing Your Retirement

## The Smart Money



Eric Garcia, Smith Barney

Your Club  
Financial Partners

The Club wants to make planning your financial future easier and more confident. To that end, there are now two separate Club partners to choose from: Eric Garcia, Smith Barney; or James Ocon and Kevin Wright, Wachovia Securities.

Remember that all financial decisions are yours; the Club offers these partners as a courtesy to you and offers no financial/securities advice of its own.

*Alive!* will feature these two partners in this space in alternating months. As the two partnerships may or may not have separate views on financial matters, they don't necessarily endorse the others' views. But they stand by what they write in the columns with their name(s) on them.

Feel free to contact them at your earliest convenience:

**Eric Garcia: (626) 683-4621**

**James Ocon and Kevin Wright: (818) 907-4209**



Eric Garcia



Kevin Wright

New Year Investment Resolutions  
You Can Follow All Year Long

Here are a few New Year resolutions that are easier to stick with than many of the traditional January vows. You do not have to overcome big obstacles to follow these tenets of investing, just develop a few good habits.

**Re-evaluate Your Portfolio**

Analyze your portfolio holdings considering your investment objectives, time horizons and life stage. If you have invested heavily in stocks and are approaching retirement age, you may want to consider reallocating a portion of your portfolio into high-quality bonds. Their long-term return potential may not be as high as stocks, but neither is their short-term volatility. As you get closer to the time when you will need these assets, you may want to consider shifting to more conservative investment vehicles to help reduce risk.

**Take The Long-Term View**

Consider the quality of a company before you invest and research its track record over five to 10 years. Resist judging an investment solely by last year's return—past performance is no guarantee of future results. A good investment can have an off year and still provide outstanding returns over the long term.

**Invest in a Blend of Securities**

One time-tested way to help reduce risk in a portfolio is to diversify. That means holding a mix of stocks, bonds and cash-equivalent instruments from a variety of issuers. Younger, conservative investors who want to invest in stocks for long-term growth may want to consider investing a portion of their portfolio in corporate and government bonds. Investors of retirement age should keep in mind that inflation could erode the returns on short-term securities. Maintaining at least a minority portion of a portfolio in equities could improve the chances of keeping total return (yield plus capital gains) ahead of inflation.

**Keep an Emergency Fund**

Be prepared for unexpected cash needs: emergency medical bills, child care, home

repairs and living expenses in case of a sudden job loss. Always keep a portion of your portfolio liquid.

**Watch for Tax Developments**

The amount you keep after taxes is the most accurate measure of your investment's performance. Your tax bracket, investment objective and changes in tax codes could make changing your investment strategy worthwhile. Consider speaking with your personal financial and tax advisors about whether tax-advantaged investments may be suitable for you.

**Leave a Legacy**

In today's environment, it may be a good idea to consider investment strategies that allow you to leave an estate for your children, grandchildren, other heirs or a favorite charity as part of your overall financial plan. Such plans may not require as much updating as altering your investment objectives. A conversation with your tax and financial advisors could help your beneficiaries eliminate probate (a lengthy procedure whereby a court handles distribution of assets not designated to a beneficiary) and other estate planning issues.

**Save Time and Money**

Take advantage of the services offered by your brokerage firm. You could save yourself the trouble of delivering stocks and bonds to your financial consultant each time you're ready to sell an investment by having your securities held in the firm's street name. When you're ready to sell, just call your financial con-

sultant. Or, consider consolidating your banking and investments into a central financial brokerage account. You may be able to manage all your investing, savings, borrowing and spending in a single account. And, some brokerage firms may supply you with an ATM card for convenient access to your funds.

A financial plan that includes the above, periodically monitored with the help of your financial consultant could help make keeping your financial resolutions painless.

Smith Barney does not provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your tax and/or legal adviser for such guidance.



*Eric Garcia is a Financial Planning Specialist with Smith Barney located in Pasadena, Calif., and may be reached at (626) 683-4621.*

*Smith Barney does not provide tax and/or legal advice. Please consult your tax and/or legal advisors for such advice. Smith Barney is a division and service mark of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC.*

*This article is based, in whole or in part, on information provided by the Sales & Marketing Communications Department of Smith Barney.*

**Send Eric your questions at [smartmoney@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:smartmoney@cityemployeesclub.com). Use "Smart Money" in the subject line.**

# The Best Years



# Volunteer 411 Get Involved!

By Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

## Angel Food Project Feeds Seriously Ill

Hello, volunteer enthusiasts!

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season filled with love, fun, laughter, happy tears and great memories.

It's hard to believe that it's already 2006. Did you make your New Year's resolutions? Does it include volunteering? If so, great for you! I have also added volunteering to my list of resolutions. I am going to make 2006 a year of positive changes, one of which is the addition of a volunteer organization spotlight to Volunteer 411. For January, I have chosen Project Angel Food.

Project Angel Food is a great organization dedicated to helping out those with terminal illnesses. Project Angel Food's mission is to "nourish the body and spirit of men, women and children affected by HIV/AIDS and other serious illnesses."

Every day, Project Angel Food Program delivers free and nutritious meals prepared by employees and volunteers at their Hollywood location to the homes of their clients. "This year, on any given day, more than 1,200 meals are delivered to clients in the greater Los Angeles area. In 2004, Project Angel Food delivered more than 385,740 meals, averaging 1,054 meals each day."

More than 3,500 volunteers help out throughout the year, either preparing meals, delivering, or helping out during a fundraising event. If you are interested in being a part of PAF, please call (800) 59-ANGEL. Before you volunteer, this organization asks that you attend a two-hour orientation. For further information, you can visit its Website: [www.angelfood.org](http://www.angelfood.org).

Well, that's it for me for this month. As always, if you are volunteering somewhere and would like to share your experience with your fellow Club members, please send me a letter or e-mail. I would very much enjoy posting stories of members who are helping out the community. Always keep an eye out for "Volunteer 411" every month, and if you would like to list some events or opportunities, please send them in to [volunteer@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:volunteer@cityemployeesclub.com) or 350 S. Figueroa St. Suite 700, Los Angeles, 90071. You can also call me at (800) 464-0452. Thanks for reading and have a great holiday season!

Some of the listed volunteer opportunities were found at: [www.idealists.org](http://www.idealists.org) [www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org)

L.A. Works  
(323) 224-6510  
[www.laworks.com](http://www.laworks.com)

Volunteer Center of Los Angeles  
(818) 908-5070  
[www.vcla.net](http://www.vcla.net)

## January

### Western Roundup at the Burbank Center (BCR) for the Retarded

"Put on your boogie shoes for an evening of dancing with the delightful BCR clients. Volunteers may also be asked to serve drinks and foods to BCR clients. BCR offers day programs for disabled adults and children to develop their abilities so they may become independent and contributing members of the community." (L.A. Works Website)

Date(s): Jan. 13  
Event Time: 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.  
Location: 230 Amherst Dr., Burbank  
Contact: (818) 843-4907

### Senior Interaction – Arts and Crafts in Alhambra

"Do you like color painting, cutting and pasting pictures, drawing, playing games, chatting, having fun, and at the same time brightening up people's smiles? Then, you'll love the arts and crafts projects at Alhambra Convalescent Home. The people here are very friendly, and your visit makes a crucial difference in the quality of their life." (Website)

Date(s): Jan. 15  
Event Time: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.  
Location: 415 S. Garfield Ave., Alhambra  
Contact: (626) 282-3151

### Nothin' But Sand Beach Cleanup at Playa del Rey

"Nothin' But Sand Cleanups are hands-on opportunities for volunteers to directly improve the condition of Santa Monica Bay beaches while enjoying the great outdoors." (Website)

Date(s): Jan. 21  
Event Time: 10 a.m. – noon  
Location: Dockweiler Beach, Pacific Ave. and 62nd St., Playa del Rey  
Contact: (800) HEALBAY or [www.healthebay.org](http://www.healthebay.org)

## Ongoing

\*Events subject to change. Please call or visit website to confirm.

### Friends of Animals Foundation

"The Friends of Animals Foundation is a no-kill shelter that rescues abused, abandoned and needy dogs and cats and places them in good homes. We will be walking dogs, feeding cats, and socializing both dogs and cats." (L.A. Works Website)

Date(s): Daily  
Event/Volunteer Time: Varies  
Location: West Los Angeles  
Contact: (310) 479-5089 or [www.foafla.petfinder.com](http://www.foafla.petfinder.com)

### Los Angeles Zoo Volunteer

There are several volunteer opportunities available at the L.A. Zoo, from docents to office work to special events. If you like animals and kids, this event is for you.

Date(s): Daily  
Event Time: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Volunteer Time: Varies  
Location: 5333 Zoo Dr., Los Angeles  
Contact: (323) 644-4703 or [www.lazoo.org/volunteering.html](http://www.lazoo.org/volunteering.html)

### Tutor at the Remedial Reading Center

This organization is looking for volunteers to help tutor intercity youths with math, reading or writing skills. Grades 1 - 7.

Date(s): Daily  
Event Time: 3 – 7 p.m.  
Volunteer Time: Varies  
Location: 2239 W. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles  
Contact: (323) 732-1350

### Project Angel Food

"Project Angel Food's mission is to nourish the body and spirit of men, women, and children affected by HIV/AIDS and other serious illnesses. The Project Angel Food Program delivers free nutritious meals prepared with love." Volunteer opportunities include: delivering meals, preparing meals at the Hollywood location, assisting in the office and participating in events.

Date(s): Mon. – Fri., Sun.  
Event Time: 8 a.m. – noon, 1 - 4 p.m.  
Volunteer Time: 2 - 4 hours  
Location: 7574 Sunset Blvd., West Hollywood  
Contact: (323) 845-1816 or [www.angelfood.org](http://www.angelfood.org)

### Meal Service for the Homeless at the Los Angeles Mission

"Every day is a day in crisis for the homeless. Help us prepare and serve the evening meal at the Mission. The Los Angeles Mission provides food, clothing and shelter to hundreds of hungry men, women and children every day. Volunteers for this project must be at least 13 years of age. Men must wear long pants (no shorts) and socks with shoes. Women, please wear closed-toed shoes (no sandals or flip flops). Please dress decently – our appearance is important in this project." (L.A. Works)

Date(s): Daily  
Event Time: 6:30 – 9 p.m.  
Volunteer Time: Vary  
Location: 303 E. 5th St., Downtown L.A.  
Contact: (213) 629-1227 or [www.losangelesmission.org](http://www.losangelesmission.org)

### Feed the Soul While Helping Feed the Hungry at L.A.'s Food Bank

"We need to make care packages for women with infants, children and senior citizens. If you want to volunteer, this is a great way to help your community."

Date(s): Saturdays (call to confirm)  
Event Time: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Volunteer Time: 3 hours  
Location: L.A. Food Bank, 1734 East 41st St., Los Angeles  
Contact: (323) 234-3030 or [www.lafightshunger.org](http://www.lafightshunger.org)

### PetSave: Animal Interaction – Rabbits

"PetSave and the spcaLA helped to rescue more than 400 neglected rabbits in 2002. PetSave's mission is to continue to care for these rabbits until all have been adopted into good homes. Volunteers are needed to help with the daily care of the rabbits, including assisting with feeding and cleaning cages, brushing and socializing the rabbits, and helping to clean and organize the shelter."

Date(s): Saturdays  
Event Time: 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Volunteer Time: Two hours/week  
Location: 522 West 9th St., San Pedro  
Contact: (310) 833-7333 or [www.petsave.org](http://www.petsave.org)

### Environment Conservation at the Ballona Wetlands

"Volunteers are needed to help remove non-native plants and trash, and they are then invited to go on guided eco-tours offered by local biologists and ecologists. Refreshments and free raffle prizes are also available. Please bring work gloves if you have them – they are mandatory for weeding and trash cleanup, and we only have a limited supply! Also, we recommend sunscreen, sunglasses, sunhat and a water bottle. Wear work boots or sturdy footwear and clothes that can get dirty." (L.A. Works Website)

Date(s): Second Saturday of each month  
Event Time: 7 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Volunteer Time: Varies  
Location: Playa del Rey  
Contact: (310) 264-9412 or [www.ballona.org](http://www.ballona.org)

### Mentor for the "I Have A Dream" Foundation

"Mentors provide a window to the world. They motivate and coach their mentees to create and achieve their dreams. Mentors are matched with individual Dreamers and commit to at least a year of monthly in-person visits and weekly phone or mail contact. This is not a financial commitment, but rather an opportunity to expose a child to new cultural and educational experiences and opportunities outside their communities."

Date(s): Monthly  
Event Time/Volunteer Time/Location: Vary  
Contact: (213) 572-0175 or [www.ihadla.org](http://www.ihadla.org)

### Hospice Volunteer Opportunity

"Do you enjoy working with an energetic team in the office? This is an opportunity to enjoy being with an energetic team working to serve each patient and family member we have during the end of life's journey." Several volunteer opportunities available.

Date(s): Ongoing  
Event Time: 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Volunteer Time: 4 hours/month  
Location: Odyssey Healthcare, 1900 W. Garvey Ave. #200, West Covina  
Contact: (626) 851-4000 or [www.odsyhealth.com](http://www.odsyhealth.com)

### Retired Teachers for Pawprints Literacy Plus Foundation

"Pawprints Literacy Plus Foundation helps fight illiteracy by using animal stories to involve kids – and adults including seniors – in reading and creative writing, plus listening and speaking exercises. We are looking for: Ability to work effectively with youngsters grades 1-12 (any combination of grade level useful). Must be proficient in language arts, able to manage discipline without a heavy hand. Ability to talk with others in the L.A. community, to help in fund raising efforts – training provided for both program and fund raising."

Date(s): Ongoing  
Event Time: Varies  
Volunteer Time: 10 hours per week  
Location: Brentwood Village  
Contact: (310) 471-5048 or [www.inaspawprints.com](http://www.inaspawprints.com)

### Public Education Ambassadors for Multiple Sclerosis Association of America

"Public Educational Ambassadors use their communication skills to represent the Multiple Sclerosis Association of America and America's Charities at public speaking events. These events include workplace-giving campaigns, health fairs and regionally organized public education events. We are looking for people who have good public speaking skills and can convey our mission to people in a public setting."

Date(s): Ongoing  
Event Time: Varies  
Volunteer Time: 3 hours  
Location: Varies  
Contact: (800) 532-7667 or [www.msaa.com](http://www.msaa.com)

### Reading to Kids

If you like reading and like helping kids learn then this opportunity is perfect for you. The Reading Club meets every Saturday and provides children with a great educational experience.

Date(s): Saturdays (call to confirm)  
Event Time: 9 a.m. – noon  
Volunteer Time: 3 hours  
Location: Elementary schools near Downtown L.A.  
Contact: (310) 479-7455 or [www.readingtokids.org](http://www.readingtokids.org)

# Poetry Contest Draws Great Entries, Winners

THE BEST YEARS

RLACEI — The Annual Retirees' Poetry Contest features some outstanding poems. The winners are:

## Members:

FIRST: Frances Cota, "Kindred Spirit"

SECOND: Elaine Chambers, "Sons"

THIRD: Leonard Ladieu, "Always Two Sides"

FOURTH: Ivan Forbes, "Ode to Tweedie Two"

## HONORABLE MENTION:

Grady Mullen, "I Wonder;" Jim McCloskey, "A 21st Century Christmas;" Angela Hughes, "Happiness;" Carleton Ralston, "Do You Miss Me?;" Marcella Butler, "Mathematics: Age, Years and Numbers;" and John Morea, "Life of a Retiree."

## Spouses:

FIRST: Lee De Bord, "The Silver-Haired Cello Player"

SECOND: Jane Hanson, "Soaring at Sunset," and

THIRD: Betty Kemeier, "To a Seagull, On Its Inability to Fly."

Everyone who entered is a winner and will receive a prize.

### Kindred Spirit

They search each other out among the throng,  
Reaching, grasping, prone to touch.  
No matching now of skin or hair or eyes;  
No sorting out of gender.

To exist in harmony is quite enough.  
No earthly force can lay a barrier down  
That they will not transcend.  
Once having found that invisible link  
That joins, they spend a lifetime in the bond,  
and do not try to meld an end  
It is the soul that seeks. They may grow ancient  
Never having kissed, nor mourn a carnal closeness  
They have missed. Appearances are cast aside  
Without a care. Just knowing that the other one  
Is there, is all they need.

It's quite enough to share the earth and all its  
strife,

If you've been lovers in another life.

— Frances A. Cota

### Sons

There's only one thing nicer than having a son  
It's having been blessed with yet another one  
Two little brothers and what buddies they'll be  
Together they'll share all of life's greatest joys  
How LUCKY we are to have TWO little boys!

— Elaine Chambers (written after her youngest son  
and his wife learned they were having another  
boy)

### Always Two Sides

Just remember, for every argument,  
There are two sides  
Each side is right in their own eyes  
Regardless of who lies  
For to do otherwise  
Would diminish their cries

— Leonard M. Ladieu

### Ode to Tweedie Two

We had a little Tweedie bird  
She got eaten by a hawk  
We replaced her without a squawk.  
Now Tweedie Two chirps  
She investigates every thing.  
She even pecks on all our food,  
And tried to edge out  
our dog Benji from his food dish.  
Benji gave a sharp bark,  
which is his answer  
For such an intrusion.  
He showed Tweedie Bird Two  
Who was Cock Robin on his roost.

— Ivan Forbes

### I Wonder

I wonder about all sorts of things  
From mice and men to rockets wings  
Will man travel in outer space  
And rocket ships be common place  
I often love to sit and think  
Of cycles past and each a link  
Explaining Man's slow evolution  
The transformations by revolution  
I often ponder god's true reason  
For earth, man, bird and season  
I wonder too, what the future brings  
About these do I wonder and other things  
Is time really the fourth dimension  
Will it one day be simple in our comprehension  
Why can't we calibrate eternity

When does the soul have its birth  
If the body faileth ere reaching its goal  
Whence so fleetly flieth the soul  
Tho at this the bell of my conscience rings  
I still dare to wonder about such things.

— Grady Mullen

### A 21st Century Christmas

Twas A Week Before Christmas, And All Through  
Our House,  
Not a Virus Was Stirring, Except For Our  
Computer Mouse...

With Mamma On Her Lap Top, And Pappa In  
His Garage,  
Not A Google Inquiry Unopened, In Preparation  
For A Shopping Barrage...

Outside Lights And Ornaments Were Down,  
Strewn All Over The Place,  
In Hopes Our Neighbors Took Pity, And Helped  
Ol' Dad Decorate...

Visions of ATM Cards Melting, Purchasing Gifts  
Large And Small,  
Presents For Family And Friends, And Neighbors  
One And All...

When Out At The Curb There Arose Such A  
Clatter,  
I Unbolted The Security Door To See What Was  
The Matter...

When What To My Wondering Eyes Should  
Appear,  
But The Postman, Fed Ex And UPS, At Once  
Were All Here...

As They Approached Our Front Porch, I Stared  
With Fright,  
My Wife's Ordering Frenzy, Meant Delivery Was  
Overnight...

With Our Grand-Kids Due In Town, In Less Than  
Three Days,  
The Honey-Do List Keep Growing, My Mind  
Working In A Haze...

And Although I've Been Retired For Three And A  
Half Years,  
The Joy Of The Holiday, Can Still Bring Me To  
Tears...

So As We Make A Toast, To Begin The Holiday  
Cheer,  
Merry Christmas To All, And To All A Happy  
New Year...

— Jim McCloskey

### Happiness

Happy memories helps make a perfect day  
To make each day happy that the best of  
health and happiness will always  
be on our way.

Time is precious so make it count in a selfless  
way.  
May every kind of happiness fill each single one  
of us everyday.

No matter what the day may bring – or what may  
lie in store, just fill your heart with hope,  
peace, family closeness and good friends  
which brings lasting happiness.

Home is a restful haven filled with joy and tender-  
ness, and a place you never want to have to  
leave for Home means Happiness!

Life knows success and happiness, misfortune and  
distress, and in times like now, count your  
many blessings and Thank God for our day of  
happiness.

— Angela M. Hughes

### Do You Miss Me?

Your captain told me how died!  
And oh, my love, I died inside!  
Through this window only glass and concrete  
buildings may be seen;

Dismal monuments to battles that man's enter-  
prise has won.

Long ago, so long ago, here smiled a meadow,  
fresh and green,

Where the poppies glowed like drops of fire fallen  
from the sun.

We gathered golden poppy blooms,  
Where yonder stately tower looms,  
And draped an unprotesting cow,  
About where Bullock's store is now.

And where that office building stands,  
We walked together holding hands,  
With hearts responding to a lark,  
Whose joyous music filled our park.

We hearkened to the meadowlark,  
Whose joyous music filled our park,  
And marveled that such hearty note  
Could tumble from so small a throat.

We wandered to a brook, and there  
You kissed my eyes, my mouth, my hair,  
And whispered in my ear, "You I adore",  
Where jaded shoppers storm a discount store.

— Carleton Ralston

### Mathematics: Age, Years and Numbers

I'm a "proud age six"!  
I play "pick-up-sticks"!  
And, I'm told that  
I'm such a "big girl"  
A baby no more!  
About this I am sure!  
So, off to school I trot,  
Proudly, ribbon and curl!  
Now, I'm sweet sixteen!  
I'm our prom night queen!  
Oh, how lovely, smart and grown-up I feel!  
About twenty-one? Fun!  
Been off to college and done!  
How this working world  
glows with appeal!

I'm now twenty-three!  
Such a busy little bee!  
I'm wife and mother  
That's me around the clock!  
Until now, I thought I was grown.  
But, I hadn't really known  
that age brings wisdom  
that only time can unlock!

I'm now twenty-six!  
Long gone, the "pick-up-sticks"!  
Yet, this "big girl"  
remains very chipper  
though picking up toys  
of dogs, little girls and boys,  
hubby's newspaper, socks,  
wallet and slippers!

I'm now thirty-five!  
Oh, Thank God I'm still alive,  
being maid, nurse, chauffeur,  
Cook, the chores galore!  
But needless to say  
I've always a full day  
with not moment  
to feel that life's a bore!

I'm now fifty-two!  
Hey! How about you?  
been pretty much the same?  
Well, then, live at it's best  
and let God do the rest!  
You will find that's the  
Best "Name Of The Game"!

I'm now sixty-one!  
And, I must say it's been fun!  
Because, through it's been fun!  
Because, through it all  
I've been surrounded by love  
Of sweet children and spouse!  
boy! I'd feel like a louse!  
if I hadn't thanked God,  
for that love came from above!  
We've shared God's love in all ways!  
So, I'm grateful for those days  
even though they were  
as hectic as can be!  
I've joined the "Over The Hill Gang"!  
But, I'll go out with a bang!

Because I've learned that  
"age is just a number", you see!  
Besides, I know life's just beginning.  
And, I've never lost for always  
Winning!

For these experiences have  
made me wiser, not dumber!  
Oh, thank God I came to know  
that with age, one can still grow!  
And, thank God that  
"Age is, still, just a number"!

— Marcella Butler

### Life of a Retiree

Being retired is great. You never have to worry  
about being late. You just wake up at nine,  
have a drink of good wine and never have  
another headache!

— John Morea

### The Silver-Haired Cello Player

The silver-haired cello player plays  
Amid the younger students on the stage.  
I wonder just how many days  
He spent dreaming of this place  
It makes me think about the years  
That he spent in dreary places  
Without the "bravo" cheers  
Away from those eager faces  
To share Bach beneath the moon  
His golden years are his delight  
The memory of toils forgotten soon  
His is now the music of the night  
The orchestra has made his life complete  
For his savage breast is soothed  
By the music oh so sweet.

— Lee De Bord

### Soaring at Sunset

God writes His signature  
Upon the sky  
In flaming sunset tones  
That lift the heart!  
Enchanted with His nearness,  
The soul swells with song,  
And hope soars high  
To claim its promised joy!

— Jane Huelster Hanson

### To a Seagull, on Its Inability to Fly

O lovely, lonely little bird  
I watch you struggle vainly  
To rise above the floating dock,  
But your wing is too ungainly.  
You spread your wings as if to fly,  
To soar above the ocean.  
You barely rise, to fall again;  
Your wing is surely broken.  
Life played a cruel trick on you;  
You can't fulfill your mission.  
But I, what reason can I give?  
Just laziness, I'm fearing.  
An injury has crippled you,  
But you are far from daunted.  
You try, then try again to rise,  
But still your will is flouted.  
I grieve for you, poor wounded gull,  
As broken wing you're grooming,  
Not knowing what lies just ahead;  
Your death is surely looming.  
Your trust and courage, gentle bird,  
Taught me the wondrous lesson  
That even broken human lives  
Through grace can cast a blessing.

— Betty Kemeier

# Retirees Celebrate

The Best Years



From left: Leo Rosen, Retiree, 32 years; Reginald Fosters, Retiree, 40 years, City Planning; Joel Rosen; and Norma Rosen all went home happy to start the holiday season.



Paul Salles, Building and Safety, 30 years, and his wife, Agnes, both won raffle prizes.



Charles O. Wilson, General Services Electronics Division, Retired, 30 years.

## RLACEI hosts annual holiday luncheon.

Story by Robert Larios, Club Director of Communications and Marketing  
Photos by Robert Larios and Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

RLACEI — If it weren't for the signs of winter hurtling through Chavez Ravine and Elysian Park, you'd think that with as many cars that were bustling by that there was a day game at Dodger Stadium. But instead dozens of retired employees and their families and friends carpoled into the Grace E. Simons Lodge parking lot and made their way into the lodge hall to join RLACEI President Ed Harding and the hundreds of RLACEI members for the Christmas Party and Installation of Officers Dec. 8.

Unconfirmed reports indicate that there were well more than 200 attendees seated for their Holiday party, which began sharply at noon. At one of the most festive holiday luncheons of the year, retired employees from a wide variety of City departments gathered with smiles and glee to see former supervisors and colleagues from departments including General Services, Bureau of

Sanitation, Rec and Parks, and LAFD, just to name a few.

"It has been such a joy to see the faces from my working days — I have only good memories," Charles Wilson, a General Services retiree, told *Alive!*

When RLACEI President Ed Harding said in his President's Message, published in the association's Winter 2005 newsletter, that the party would provide lots to eat, door prizes, and entertainment, he was not fibbing.

"Ed and the rest of the officers have outdone themselves with today's Christmas event; the food was scrumptious," Grace Gonzalez said.

Although the Christmas Party was festive and served as a much anticipated annual reunion for many retired City employees, official RLACEI business was part of the agenda with the installation of RLACEI officers. The list of officers is published in the Best Years section in every issue of *Alive!*

Additionally, RLACEI welcomed special guests Veronica Sanchez of the Department of Aging, LACERS General Manager Robert Aguillo Jr., and LACERS Chief Management Analyst for Health Benefits Sandra Dyson.

Once finished with the official business, the festivities continued with the distribution of door prizes. There was much eagerness and enthusiasm for movie tickets, chocolate candies, and \$50

Safeway Grocery gift cards provided by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

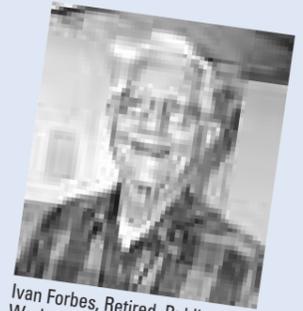
"I'm very happy to win the gift card. This is going to some good use, and I want to thank the Club for donating their door prizes," said Edward Rishel of LAFD after jumping out of his seat to snatch his winnings when his name was called out.

Satisfied that the agenda was completed, bellies filled and prizes released, retirees shook hands and exchanged warm hugs while united by the sounds of indiscernible chatter of holiday wishes carried toward the exit doors and toward parked cars outside.

"Merry Christmas to you!" said Ken Spiker to many of the members as they exited the lodge. Spiker served 28 years with the City and retired as the Chief Legislative Analyst. He has been a RLACEI Director since 1994.

"Happy New Year!" exclaimed Leo Rosen, a City retiree who arrived with his wife, Norma, and son, Joel.

As the last of the members went on their way, emptying the lodge hall to a deafening silence, RLACEI officers and directors looked at one another with gratifying grins as if to acknowledge that this event was one of their most successful yet. It looks like the prosperity for 2006 arrived a few weeks early.



Ivan Forbes, Retired, Public Works-Sanitation, 23 years, won one of the many raffle prizes handed out.



RLACEI President Ed Harding took care of some association business.



Edward Rishel, LAFD, won a \$50 gift card donated by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.



Jack Mathews handed Morrie Henkin a prize as a raffle winner. Morrie, Retired, LAPD and Public Works, 40 years.



Lee Burrell, Retiree from Public Buildings (now known as General Services), 32.5 years.



Robert Perry, Sanitation, Waste Water Collection, Retired, 31.5 years.



The Great John Shadle and his wife, Margaret, couldn't wait to be reunited with old friends from the City. John had 18 years of service before retiring from Building and Safety.



From left: Benjamin Mills, Rec and Parks, Retired, with his wife, Lilly, and granddaughter, Jalean Wade.



Angel Gonzalez, Retired, Building and Safety, 20 years, sat next to his wife, Grace.



From left: René O'Malley and her mother, Wilma Rebbe of LAPD, had a grand time.



Vito Buchicchio, Rec and Parks, 36 years, and his wife, Marie.



The talented writer Phil Skarin listened the items on the agenda.



LACERS General Manager Robert Aguillo Jr. spoke to the retirees about the latest ongoings with LACERS.



Department of Aging employee Veronica Sanchez gave good information about the services that the Department provides.

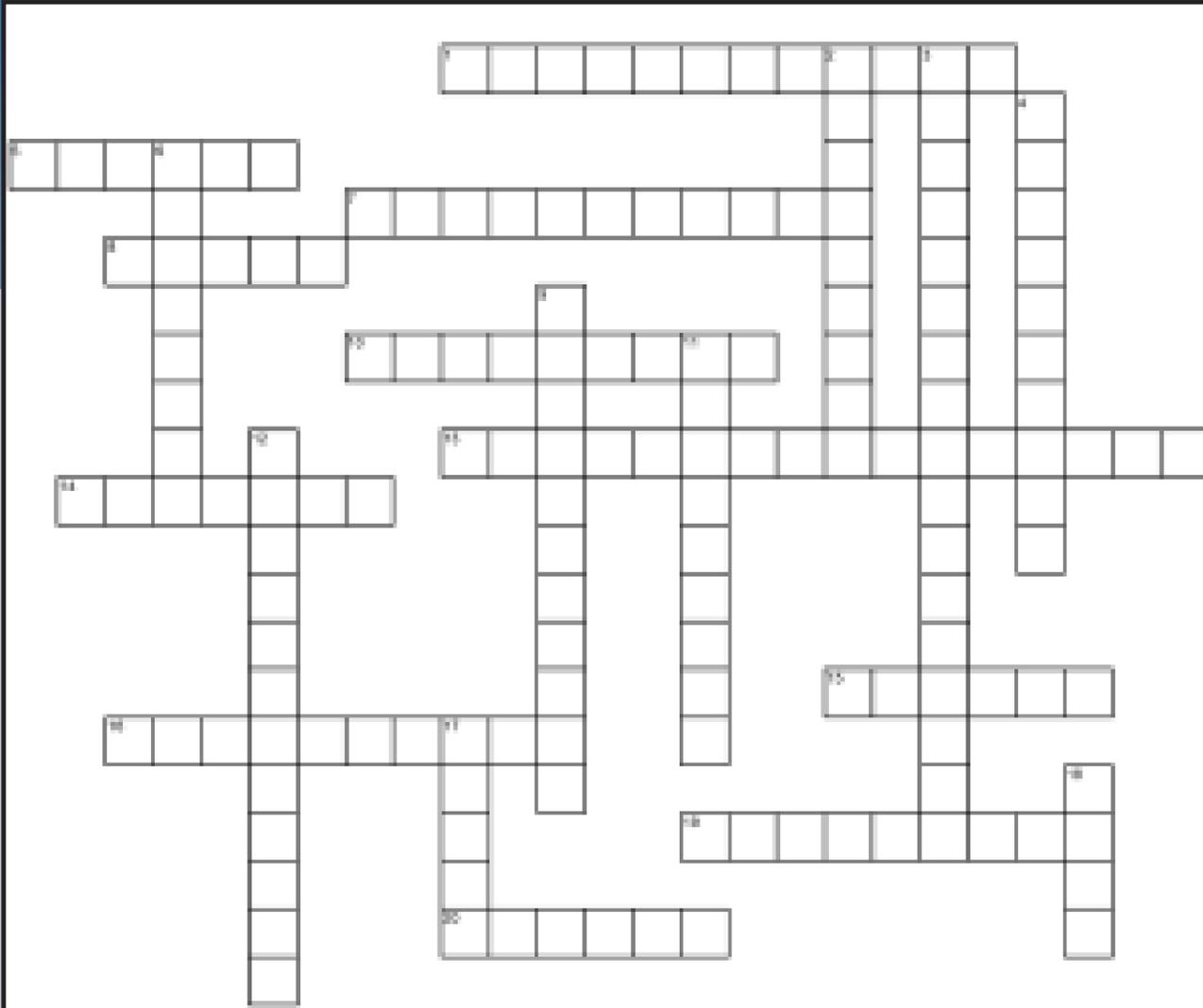


John Lane, General Services, Retired, 26 years, waits in line for lunch.

# The Best Years

## The *Alive!* Crossword Puzzle

Created by Club Events Guru Michelle Moreno



Grab your pencil, and let the fun begin!

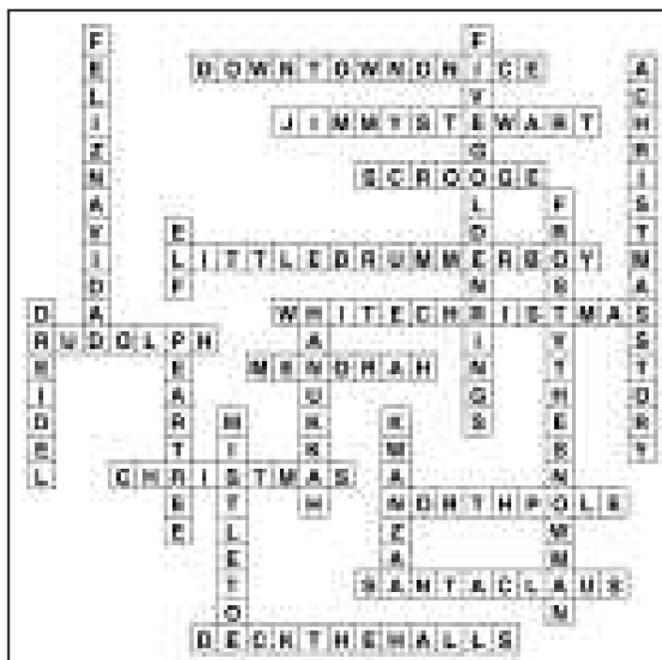
### ACROSS

1. (2 words) Roman Emperor
5. Peaceful Indian Leader
7. (2 words) Fought for immigrant farmer rights
8. Owns "Harpo"
10. (3 words) National heroine of France and Patron Saint
13. (2 words) Led British army during WW11
14. President during Civil War
15. Famous Chicago Bulls athlete
16. First U.S. President
19. Egyptian Queen
20. General during WWI

### DOWN

2. Queen of England
3. (3 words) Famous Greek Conqueror
4. (2 words) led the Knights of the Round Table
6. Famous French General
9. (2 words) Founder of the City Employees Club
11. New Deal
12. (2 words) Famous catholic Polish priest
17. New York Real Estate Guru
18. Civil Rights Activist

### Last Month's Answers



### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

*Christmas is Coming Again*

*It's time to roll up the scroll for 2005 of things*

*we have said and done*

*and place it on the shelf of memories.*

*Then, as we take down a new scroll for 2006,*

*we expect to find a clean page on which to begin*

*recording the New Year's deeds and events.*

*But, instead we find a list of leftovers from 2005:*

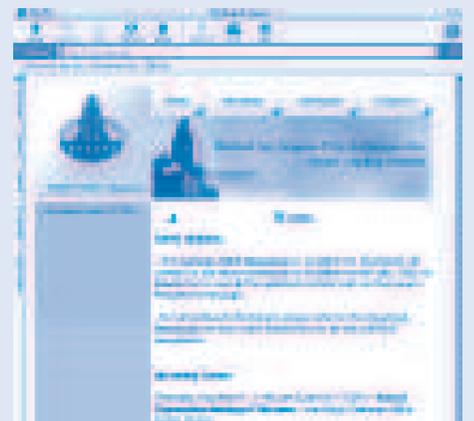
*promises we didn't keep, wrongs we haven't made*

*right, and love we have withheld from our neighbor.*

*So, start now to clean up any leftovers and then start*

*with a clean slate and then have a Happy New Year!*

-- Phil Skarin, RLACEI



### RLACEI Website

Hal Danowitz asks you to visit our Website at:  
[www.rlacei.com](http://www.rlacei.com) to find out the latest  
 retiree news.

# Hey, Club member: Ever think about how much life insurance you need?



## We do.

We're your City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

As a Club member, you and your spouse may apply to participate in one of the best group-rated insurance programs available. With its top-rated insurance provider, the Club has developed a program that ensures maximum benefit with minimum premiums. It's just another way for the Club and its staff to show how much they care about their members.

### How much life insurance do you really need?

Probably more than you think. But, we can help you figure out how much. With a few simple answers, this Life Insurance Worksheet will give you a general idea of how much you need to protect your loved ones in case you're not there.

### Who can help you with your insurance questions?

Your knowledgeable Club counselor is dedicated to helping you, a Club member, to maximize the value of your membership. That includes offering guidelines and direction on important insurance questions and decisions. You will get honest, direct answers because our Counselors don't earn commission. That means there's no pressure – really!

### Your Club counselor is waiting for your call!

After you've completed the Life Insurance Needs Worksheet, call the Club's toll free number, (800) 464-0452 and you'll be connected with a licensed insurance counselor.

You'll get the answers you need to make the right decisions about your life insurance.



[www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)

City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
300 South Figueroa St., Suite 700  
Los Angeles CA, 90071

## Life Insurance Needs Worksheet

**4 Easy Steps** This worksheet provided by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles can help you get a general sense of how much life insurance you need. However, you should always consult with a Club Counselor or other licensed agent before buying any insurance products. The worksheet assumes you died today.

### STEP 1 INCOME

Annual income your family would need if you died today (usually 60-70% of total income)	\$
Annual Income from your Spouse	\$
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$</b>

### STEP 2 EXPENSES

Burial Expenses (Count on an adult funeral cost of \$10,000)	\$
Mortgage and Other Debts (Include mortgage balance, credit card debt, car loans, home equity loans, etc.)	\$
College Costs (Public Schools: \$50,000; Private School: \$110,000 per child)	\$
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>

### STEP 3 ASSETS

Savings and Investments (Bank accounts, CD's, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, real estate/rental property, etc.)	\$
Retirement Savings (IRA's, 401k Plans, Deferred Compensation)	\$
Present Amount of Life Insurance (Include group insurance and personal insurance purchased on your own, or through City Flex, DWP Mutual Benefit Plan, etc.)	\$
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>

### STEP 4 LIFE INSURANCE CALCULATION

TOTAL INCOME + TOTAL EXPENSES = \$ **(B)**

**LIFE INSURANCE NEEDED** = \$  
(Subtract **(A)** from **(B)**)

**Call the Club today: (800) 464-0452**



From left: Aram Salmasi, Division Manager with James Owsley, the recipient for Outstanding Customer Service in 2005.



From left: Aram Salmasi, Division Manager with Ken Mak, the 2005 recipient for Dedicated Team Member.



Mail Services 2005 recipient for Exemplary Employee is Mary Ann Ruiz.

# Letter Perfect

## ■ General Services says thanks to Mail Services.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor  
 Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Communications and Marketing

**GENERAL SERVICES** — For the fourth consecutive year, General Services held its annual appreciation event to thank the employees in Mail Services. Their job is almost always high-paced and demanding, but these employees make it happen around the clock-delivering mail to more than 40 City departments.



The event took place Dec. 6 in the Tom Bradley Room atop City Hall.

Mail Services Division is part of General Services, with a commitment to provide each City Department professional and quality Messenger and Delivery service. Mail Services adheres to standards set by the United States Postal Service on out-bound mail dissemination. The Service educates departments citywide on cost saving

methods to conserve their annual postage budget.

In the last two years, Mail Services has increased its services and helped provide significant savings through mass mailer automation, quarterly Mail Coordinator training classes and monthly vendor invoice audits. Each function individually ensures that departments receive quality service at the most economical cost.

The Service is proud of continual staff training for customer service, professionalism and updates on new procedures and guidelines. You're invited to click on a the link of your choice to the right to find out how our Division can meet all your mailing needs...

These Awards are determined by vote from all Mail Services Team Members.

- The 2005 recipient for **Outstanding Customer Service: James Owsley.**
- The 2005 recipient for **Dedicated Team Member: Ken Mak.**
- The 2005 recipient for **Exemplary Employee: Mary Ann Ruiz.**



Representing Local 3090 were (from left) Carmen Hayes Walker and Shela Hurrel.



From left: Terry Brummund, Delivery Driver, and Gus Cortes Jr.



Messenger Clerks Kevin Ward and Espie Reynoso hope to win a prize.



Tim Lamb, Delivery Driver, and Napoleon Fuller, Delivery Driver, enjoy their lunch.



From left: Brenda Nichols, Messenger Clerk, and Jerline Morgan.



Ernest Bernal and Michael Hammersley.



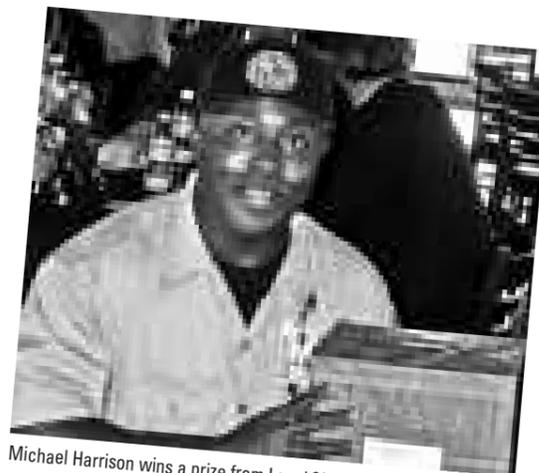
From left: Ceci Rodgers, Executive Administrative Assistant, and Laura Bermudez, Executive Administrative Assistant.



Tony Royster congratulates employees for their important role in the City.



From left: Aram Salmasi, Division Manager with James Owsley as he accepts a 25-year Service Pen.



Michael Harrison wins a prize from Local 3090.



Aram Salmasi, Division Manager, Mail Services Division.



George Taylor, Delivery Driver.



Regino Sarabia.



From left: Aram Salmasi, Division Manager with Kevin Ward, 10-year Service Pen Recipient.



General Manager Alvin Blain calls Mail Services a premier team of City employees.



City Councilmember Wendy Greuel thanks the employees for their commitment.



From left: Aram Salmasi, Division Manager with Jeannette Arnold as she accepts a 25-year Service Pen.



The Club is grateful for the toys Members donated to the Club Toy Drive. Posing with just some of the collected toys were Club staffers (from left) Angel Gomez, Howard Pompel, Sara Fama, Brian Trent, Jessica Segura and Ticket Guy (Navin Cotton).

## Lots of Toys for Girls and Boys

### Club toy drive is big success.

**THE CLUB** — One hundred and fifty-six toys!

That's the grand total – and we do mean grand – that Club Members generously contributed to the Club's annual toy drive, which concluded Dec. 16.

Last year, the Club collected 60 toys, an excellent total. This year's goal was 80 toys. The actual collection was almost double the goal.

The Club thanks everyone who took part.

The drive benefited the LAPD Central City Police Boosters. Some of the toys were to be distributed to City Employees in hardship, too.



Some of the toys were purchased using funds collected through a special raffle at ClubFest in October. The special raffle raised more than \$400.

This was the third year that the Club participated in the holiday toy drive. We'll let you know in plenty of time about next year's toy drive.

# Golden Age of Travel

### Central Library features exhibit of classic travel posters.

**LIBRARY** — Bombay, Oaxaca and Bermuda are among the many exotic locations featured in *Far and Wide: The Golden Age of Travel Posters*, an exhibition of vintage travel posters from the collection of the Los Angeles Public Library on view through May 7 at the Central Library's Getty Gallery, 630 W. Fifth St., downtown.

The exhibit features more than 60 travel posters from the library's collection, which has never before been exhibited and includes material from the 1920s through the 1940s. These exquisite posters celebrate travel by steamship, airline and railroad to exotic destinations around the world. Highlights include posters for the 1936 Munich Olympics, a depiction by Hubert Herkomer of the legendary French oceanliner *Normandie*, two examples of Italian Futurist design by Marcello Nizzoli and Alberto Trancisi, posters promoting travel throughout the Far East, and more.

Many of the posters date from the 1920s, which began an era of travel and its promotion via posters unprecedented before or since. This restless generation shared a passion for adventure unlike any other, and the economic boom years following the war provided the means and the leisure to indulge their lust for travel.

The early posters often present ideal landscapes, as in the California/New York Central poster by Jon Brubaker. After the mid-1920s, the predominant artistic style becomes Art Deco and the posters reflect this era's love of modernism, speed, machines and desire to experience the exoticism of faraway

places, in a way no other form can. Although travel posters are enjoyed for their evocative beauty today, they were originally produced for commercial purposes. Steamship lines, airlines and railways commissioned the posters to encourage visitors to experience the advertised destinations by using their services. Due to the posters' commercial nature, they were printed on the least expensive paper and were

expected to have a life of only eight weeks. Because there was no general agreement that these works had artistic merit, they were often handled carelessly.

These conditions, as well as a 1986 fire at the Central Library, where this collection was stored, make the survival of these posters miraculous, says exhibition curator and travel poster expert Louis Bixenman. "We

are fortunate to have them today as an exhilarating visual memory of the Jazz Age. They offer tantalizing hints of what

it must have been like during an unprecedented era of travel to exotic and romantic destinations."

The exhibition is free and open during library hours: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m.

*Far and Wide: the Golden Age of Travel Posters* is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Los Angeles, with support from Lillian and Jon Lovelace.

To support the Los Angeles Public Library, please call (213) 228-7500.

The library is closed holidays. For more information, the public can call (213) 228-7500 or visit [www.lapl.org/events](http://www.lapl.org/events)





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FREE L.I.C. & FORWARD	FREE L.I.C. & FORWARD	FREE L.I.C. & FORWARD	FREE L.I.C. & FORWARD	FREE L.I.C. & FORWARD	FREE L.I.C. & FORWARD	FREE L.I.C. & FORWARD	FREE L.I.C. & FORWARD



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**LG Vx 6100**

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**MOTOROLA 2000**

\$ CALL \$



**SAMSUNG 7000**

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**LG Vx 3000**

\$ CALL \$



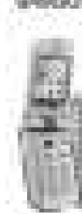
**MOTOROLA V70**

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**LG Vx 3000**

\$ CALL \$



**MOTOROLA HORIZON**

\$ CALL \$



**SAMSUNG 7000**

\$ CALL \$



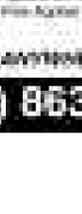
**LG Vx 3000**

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# Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Alex Organista, Armando Galvan, Greg Cordell and Delano Crawford. Back: Frank Ramos.



From left: Kevin Rodriguez, Tony Cardenas and Bob Alden. Back: Tom Wendling.



Back row, from left: Bert Zabala and Carlos Torres. Front row: Mars Casto, Ramon Sysu and Mariano Evangelista.

## Convention-al Party

■ **Convention Center gets into the holiday spirit at annual party.**

unwrapped toy. Employees sang to a karaoke machine, and several items were auctioned off. The party was a big success for the Convention Center.

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor



Luis Aguilar performs for the crowd.

CONVENTION CENTER — The Convention Center held the annual holiday party for its employees Dec. 8. More than 100 employees joined the festivities.

Everyone in attendance donated an



Phillip Hill and Maria Ramirez.



Ray sings to the crowd.



Employees help themselves to the buffet table.



From left: Cornelius Woods, Tim Stratton and Thomas Turner.



From left: Estella Flores, Ernesto Gallegos and Robbie Bridges.



From left: Patrick Rigali, Casey Jones and Bill Brady.



From left: Derek Young, Miguel De La Pena and Gail Owsley.



Back row, from left: Marion Jones and Adriana Valles. Front: Barbara Mack, Kimmy Lee, Elsa Deanda and Hedy Guinto.



From left: Lisa Gerencser, Luis Aguilar and Andy Luevano.

# Holiday Wrap-up



Tyson gets his face painted.



Christopher and Denzle.



Kids take a train ride around the park.



From left: Ashley, Jacquelyn and Erica.



From left: Jeaninne, Angelica Chamagus and Nathalie.

## For the Kids at LAX

### ■ LAX holds party for families.

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor  
Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

**AIRPORTS** — LAX hosted its annual children's Christmas party Dec. 3 at Westchester Park. All airport employees and their families were invited to attend the fun-filled day. Everyone enjoyed free food, games, pony rides, train rides and lots of free gifts.

Santa Claus arrived to the event



on an LAFD truck, ready to delivery presents to all the children.

The Club was happy to donate four Disneyland tickets for the raffle.



Philip Castillo, Airport Police.



A little boy enjoys a pony ride.



Korey Holmes, Airport Police, with Kortney.



A young girl waits for her cotton candy.



Santa and his helpers arrive on a fire truck.



Gerald and Nathan Schafer.



Karla Scott and family.



From left: Brittne, Ashley and Kinayha.



Joseph Banda's family.



Jose Chicas and Flora Chicas.



Mary Mauldin, Street Cleaning, and Willemena Nunez, Street Cleaning.



Lita Jacobs and family.



Rhonda Black and Eric Friend.



Don Martinez, Custodial, and Don Martinez Jr.



From left: Max, Nicholas and Pam Orona.



Back row, from left: Josfina Olmos and Maria Ramos. Front: Eduardo Ramos and Alex Gramajo.



Hundreds of people line up for lunch.



From left: Deedee Gordon, A/C Shop; Genny Santiesteban, C & M; and Tiffany Issac.



Rose Crutchfield and family.



Ms. Nunez's family.

# Holiday Wrap-up



Shown are some of the committee members who coordinated the holiday event. Employees thanked all who helped make this event possible.



Jaime Sahagan (far end of table) is a Sheet Metal Worker having fun at the craps table.



From left: Wil Tinoyan and John Lara counting their odds at the roulette table.

## Custodian Dinner

### ■ Gen. Services Custodians gather for holiday party.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor  
Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Communications and Marketing

GENERAL SERVICES — General Services gathered for an intimate dinner Dec. 3 at the Carson Community Center.

The dinner was a traditional holiday gathering – food, music, dancing and prizes.

The Club thanks Liz Floyd for the invitation.



From left: Pablo Colmenares, Custodian, 7 years, with his wife, Ana.



From left: Keisha Tyler, 4 years, and her sister, Monique Tyler.



From left: Moe and Hortense Tyler were pleased to attend their daughter's (Keisha Tyler) holiday dinner.



From left: James Wallace Sears; Johnnie Pace, Civic Center, 20 years; Camilla Hill, Sr. Custodian, 6 years; and Chuck Kimbell, Storekeeper II, 17 years.



Takeishir Erving, 1 year.



Janice Bonner, 3 months.



The dapper B.J. Jenkins loves this time of the year. He has 19 years of City service.



Liz Floyd, 28 years, handled the reception table by greeting employees and their families and friends with her sparkling smile.



From left: Joe Greenhoward, Furniture Mover, 22 years; Sylvia Brewington, retired, 30 years; Logan Redman, retired, 30.5 years; and Patricia Ross, Custodian Supervisor, 18 years, with her husband, Marion.



From left: Victoria Hobbs, Custodian Supervisor, 16 years; Johnny Johnson, Head Custodian Supervisor, 17.5 years; and Liz Floyd, Custodian Supervisor, 28.5 years.

## A General Party

### ■ General Services celebrates.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Communications and Marketing

GENERAL SERVICES — This large City department hosted its annual holiday party Dec. 15 at the Proud Bird restaurant in Westchester.

There was casino-style gaming, door prizes and great food. Although the Proud Bird had ample parking for hundreds of cars, the parking lot quickly filled.

General Manager Alvin Blain was in attendance.

General Services wants to send their special thanks to the 2005 Holiday Committee. They are:

- Terra Jones, Mail Services
- John Mireles, Supply Services
- Laura Backstrom, Standards

- Conchita Del Rio Alcala, SMS (PTC)
- Bertha Mata, Supply Services Payment
- Ed Pina, Con Forces (PTC)
- Ramon Vargas, Parking Services
- Anastasia Williams, Security Services
- Jeffrey Mckimson, Fuel and Env Comp
- David Paschal, Executive
- Theresa Pina, Personnel Services
- Eric Robles, Special Events
- Mona Curry, Finance
- Manny Zamora, MIS
- Javier Garcia, Fleet Services
- Sylvia Moran, Supply Services
- Trang Nguen, Asset Management
- Virginia Stocks, Facilities Management
- Mike Rangel, Building Maintenance
- Abby Truong, Publishing Services
- Lisa Harris, Executive Office

The Club thanks Javier Garcia for this assistance.



Vaheh Shahbazian, Equipment Mechanic, 4 months.



008: From left: Carla Hall, Sr. Custodian, 8 years; and Debra Harrell, Custodian, 6 years.



Katrina DeLeon, Accountant, 15 years, is happy to be playing blackjack.



Zane Tarver, Floorman, 5 years.



From left: David Shur, Bindery Supervisor, 29 years; Abby Truong, Sr. Clerk Typist, 7 years; Tracy Vu, Systems Analyst, 4 years; Michael Leighton, Director of Publishing Services and Club Board of Director; Ferdinand Mutuc, Accountant, 9 months; Albert Wang, Graphic Designer, 5 years; Gonzalo Sarabia, Press Operator, 18 years; and Stephan Nalbantian, Printing Press Operator II, 16 years.

# Holiday Wrap-up



All the cooks and helpers stop for a photo before the line starts.



Tanisha Boyd and helper take a break for a photo.



Hollywood Fleet Services Parking Enforcement, from left: Deane Nakata, Equipment Mechanic; Jim Dranow, Equipment Mechanic; and Richard Falt, Supervisor.



DOT officers rock the house singing "Jingle Bell Rock."

## Transportation Celebrates

### ■ Transportation's Hollywood Division has year-end luncheon.

Story and photos by Bev Haro, Club Counselor

TRANSPORTATION — The DOT Hollywood Division held its year-end luncheon Dec. 15 at the Hollywood Parking Enforcement Facility.

The party began with ham, turkey, tamales, egg rolls, sweet yams, salad and cake. Prizes were given to Transportation employees throughout the party. Sometimes the prizes had a "twist:" The

winner had to sing a holiday song to the crowd before they were entitled to their prize.

Members of the Hollywood Social Club also engaged the audience with the game, "Let's make a deal." Sarah Morton was the lucky winner of the portable DVD player donated by the City Employees Club.

At the end of the party, Secret Santas were revealed. Everyone seems to have had a great time!



Tanisha Boyd helps Dwayne Harper get through his song to win his prize.



Another prizewinner sings a holiday song.



Sarah Morton won the portable DVD player donated by the Club.



Officer Raxtun with Officer Ortiz and his family.



From left: Emeka Nnamoko, John Otto and Alfredo Predraza.



Emmanuel David serves the egg rolls he cooked.



A Secret Santa gift.



From left: Dwayne Harper, Robin Robledo and Cheryl Henry.

# Holiday Wrap-up



Standing, from left: Connie Randle, Detention Officer, Club Member; Sandra Bell, guest; and Anita Casey, Detention Officer. Seated: Cynthia Reed, Sr. Detention Officer; Shirley Westbrooks, Sr. Detention Officer, Club Member; and Diane Anderson, Detention Officer.



From left: Sgt. Gil Esquibel, Metro Jail, and his wife, Jean; and Cecilia and Joe Hernandez, Sgt. II, Metro Jail.



From left: Susan and Sgt. Shawn Wehr, PAB.

## A Jailhouse Holiday

### ■ LAPD Jail Division hosts a holiday gathering.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor  
Photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

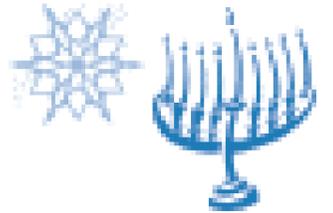
POLICE DEPT. — The LAPD' Jail Division hosted a holiday party Dec. 17 at the Ports o' Call restaurant in the Harbor.

Club counselor Arlene Herrero was invited, and the Club donated prizes for event.

The party included a cocktail hour before a buffet dinner. Music was provided by Elision Montoya. Master of Ceremonies was Victor Ladd.

Capt. Patrick Findley welcomed everyone, and music and dancing continued until midnight.

The Club thanks LaDonna Moore, David Muraoka and Capt. Findley



From left: Olga Zavala-Edwards, Principal Detention Officer, Club Member; and La Donna Moore, Accounting Clerk, Club Member.



From left: Pat Eskridge, Detention Officer, Club Member; and Delilan and Claro Bueno, Sr. Detention Officer.



Standing: Kevin Wiggins, guest. Seated, from left: Danielle Williams; Angela Thompson, Sr. Clerk Typist; Margaret Shyne; and Tammie Sowell, guest.



From left: Laura Muraoka, Principal Detention Officer, Van Nuys Jail, Club Member; Capt. Patrick Findley, Commanding Officer, Jail Division; and David Muraoka, Principal Detention Officer, Van Nuys Jail, Club Board Member.



From left: Kathleen Williams, Detention Officer, Club Member; Theresa Zaragoza, Detention Officer, Club Member; and Alex Perez, guest.



From left: Esther Ancurio, Sr. Detention Officer, Foothill Jail, with her guest for the evening.



From left: Michael Potter, Detention Officer, and his wife, Monica.



Standing, from left: Laura Muraoka, Principal Detention Officer, Van Nuys Jail, Club Member; and David Muraoka, Principal Detention Officer, Van Nuys Jail, Club Board Member. Seated: Abdullah Awad, Detention Officer, Club Member; and Asma Awad, Abdullah's mother.



Standing: Natasha Gallardo. Seated, from left: Nichola Zavala; and Yvette Vasquez, Principal Detention Officer, Assistant Officer in Charge Valley Jail Section.



From left: Janae Bellamy and Timisha, Chaquita and Leslie Moore, daughters of Club Member La Donna Moore.

# Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Martha Torres, Office of Finance; Gloria Gonzalez; and Mary Manriquez.



Back row, from left: Fransaca De La Paz and Gloria Hinojosa. Front: Inez Saucedo, Veronica Jaimez and Bernie Leyva.



Councilman Ed Reyes extends holiday greetings to the members of LACECA and President Jackie Zarate. The Councilman also thanked them for their generosity in donating toys for underprivileged children in his district.



From left: Leonor Garcia, Public Works; Juno Galvan, DWP; Sonia Sanchez; and Martha Lopez.

## LACECA Reception

■ Chicano association's holiday party featured toy drive.

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor

LACECA — The Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA) hosted its annual holiday reception and toy drive Dec. 1 at the Lincoln Heights Senior Center. The organization collected 150 toys and \$530 in donations for

the Good Shepherd Shelter for Homeless Women.

LACECA members enjoyed food, music, dancing and door prizes. The City Employees Club was happy to donate three Los Angeles Lakers tickets for the holiday raffle.

Other people in attendance were Rushmore Cervantes, General Manager, El Pueblo, and Art Placencia, President of the Latin American Law Enforcement Association (LA LEY).



From left: Ron Corona and Brenda and David Cisneros.



Back row, from left: Janeshia Robinson, Art Irigoyen and Felicia Brown. Front: Violet Gonzalez, Elizabeth Gutierrez, Ruben Vasquez, Lupe Ortiz and John De La Rosa.



LACECA member Sonia Sanchez is ecstatic as she wins a DVD player. Sonia poses with Master of Ceremonies Robert Soto and holiday committee chairpersons Gloria Ortiz and Elvia Garcia.



Assistant General Manager Mark Mariscal thanks LACECA for supporting the community this holiday season.



Richard Guerrero and Toni Estrada.



Luis Reyes and Janet Vera.



John and Herlinda Rodarte.



From left: Luis De La Torre and Alfonso Franco.



# Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Sgt. Kathy Weigel and Lieut. Mary Michel.



The holiday party committee.



From left: Philip Sawyer, guest; Carolyn Sawyer, Electric Craft Helper; and Connie Lee, Management Analyst.



Janet and Chuck Gioia

## Training for the Holidays

### ■ LAPD Training Division hosts a holiday party.

Story and photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

**POLICE DEPT.** — The LAPD Training Division threw its annual holiday party Dec. 3 at Castaways in Burbank. The theme of the evening was Mardi Gras.

Among the entertainment was late night talk show host Jay Leno.

The Club thanks the Holiday Committee for inviting us.



Guests Erika and Steve Gonzalez.



From left: Denise Sinclair, Clerk Typist, Committee Vice Chair; and Denise Williams, Senior Clerk Typist, Committee Chair.



Officer Laurie and Guy Gillen



Officer Debra and Frank Hernandez.



From left: Maria Wint, guest; Officer John Walker; Sgt. Tim Surette and Sgt. Teri Surette.



Capt. Greg Meyers and Jay Leno.



Guests John, Jenni and baby Kaylee Ugarte.



From left: Jenai Lyles, Senior Clerk Typist; Elisha Mitchell, Senior Clerk Typist; Lydia Hollins, Senior Clerk Typist; and Carl Norwood, guest.



From left: Lieut. Natalie Williams; Det. Gena Brooks and Tony Ales, guest.



Cmdr. Terry and Gayle Hara.



Officer Mary Hodges and Sgt. Don Tudor.



Penny, Office of Finance, and Day Dimitra.



From left: Stan White, guest, and Officer Kim Reedy.



Det. Madolyn and Ellie Candelaria.



Officer David and Carmen Mejia



From left: Bridgette Jones, Senior Clerk Typist; and Janice Austin, Management Analyst.



Top, from left: (in costume) Laura Rangel, Senior Management Analyst, and Miguel Rangel, DWP Sheet Metal Worker. Bottom: Rosalyn Hawes, Senior Clerk Typist; Anna Edmonds, Guest; Debbie Pacheco, Guest; and Damian Pacheco, Management Analyst.

# Holiday Wrap-up



From the Jefferson Branch, from left: Art Mesa, Clerk Typist; Shemekea Washington, Clerk Typist; Mike Doiel, Adult Librarian; Diane E., Children's Librarian; Corinda Humphrey, Young Adult Librarian (Junipero Serra); and Melinda Rosas, Clerk Typist.



Phyllis Stitt, Vernon Library; and Retha Walker, Junipero Serra Library.



From left: Jennifer Stapleton, San Pedro Library; and Wanda Johnson, retired Librarian.

## Central/South Libraries Celebrate

### Library's Central/Southern Areas get together for holiday party.

Story by Nailah Malik, Young Adult Librarian, Jefferson Branch  
Photos by Bev Haro, Club Counselor

LIBRARY — Eat, drink, and be merry!

The scene was the Vernon Branch Library but hardly in its customary form, for the holiday spirit was in full bloom. Spruced up from floor to ceiling, this information treasury was drenched in the seasonal colors of

green and red.

Reading tables were transformed for dining, clothed in sheets of crimson and emerald candle centerpieces skirted with pinecone wreaths. Bulletin boards were dressed in gift-wrapping topped off with large silky and velvety bows. Across the crowns of display cases and streaming along walls were lace and ribbon, looping and dangling and entwined with glittery bulbs and bells suggestive of a gay waltz in mid air.

On the morning of Dec. 15, when the weather portended a 70-degree day, the Vernon Branch Library hosted a holiday party for the central-southern region of the

Los Angeles Public Library. Every year this time-honored tradition unfurls across the City in all six regions of the Los Angeles Public Library, stretching from San Pedro to San Fernando Valley.

Amid the rococo-rich ornamentation, the potluck-style buffet that evolved treated guests to a Texas-size lavish spread of delectables — meats, poultry, veggies, salads, dressing, rice, breads, cakes, pies, fudge and candy galore. The crowd of bright-eyed cheery-faced well-wishers that poured in from 13 branches with a few staff and administrators from Central Library and retirees mingled in, climbed to 200 before

ebbing around noon. Commingling while loading up plates and dining at tables, the crescendo of joy played out to the backdrop of classical carols flowing from a stereo.

A call to duty curtailed the revelry when a fundraiser was thrown into the mix. Money earned from the white elephant sale and raffles, including a chocolate pizza raffle that piqued everyone's interest, will be used to bring programs for teens and children served by the Central-Southern region.

May remnants of the immersion of joy and goodwill companion each in attendance until next year.



From left: Shirley Jordan, Harbor Library; Joann Morgan, Jefferson Library; Rachel Napper, Jefferson Library; Johnna Weaver, Vernon Library; Kathleen Larson, Wilmington Library; and Veea Knight, Sub Clerk, Central/Southern Region.



From left: James Sherman, Mark Twain Library; John Pham, Exposition Library; and Tariq Shah, Watts Library.



From left: June Brandon, Exposition Library, Adult Literacy Coordinator; Paula Salo, Retired Librarian; and Pat Wroblewski, Retired Teacher.



From left: Jonquil Bibee-Stephens, San Pedro Library; and Maura Large, San Pedro Library.



From left: Johnnie Frazier, Vernon Library; and Rosetta Warren, retired Librarian.



Nailah Malik, Jefferson Library; and Jené Brown, Harbor Gateway Library.



From left: Albert Johnson, Young Adult Services, Central Library; and Johnna Weaver, Vernon Library.



From left: Johnna Weaver, Vernon Library; Jackie Roberts, San Pedro Library; and Liz Gooden, Retired Librarian.



From left: John Pham, Exposition Library; and Cathy Boyle, Exposition Library.



From left: Celia Avila, Harbor Gateway Library; Sharon Gatchalian, Harbor Gateway Library; and Suitberto Buslon, Harbor Gateway Library.



Friends of the Vernon Library.



# Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Lt. Ray Garvin with his wife; and Lt. Tom Brascia, Detective Commanding Officer, with his wife, Marjean.



From left: Frank Oday; Ofelia Lopez; and Cora Handayan, Detective II, with her husband, Dan.



Sgt. George Cauford announced his retirement after 35 years of service.



From left: Erwin Velasco, Detective III, Operations Valley Bureau; and Capt. Jodi Wakefield, Commanding Officer, Central Patrol Division.

## A Central Station Holiday

### ■ LAPD's Central Station hosts holiday event.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor  
Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Communications and Marketing

POLICE DEPT. — The LAPD Central Station's holiday affair, held Dec. 9 at the Wilshire Grand Hotel, was a sellout. More than 350 attended.

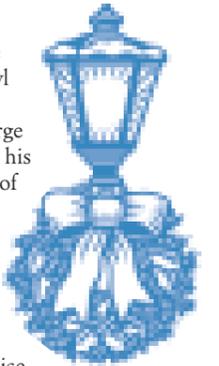
The Club donated prizes for the event. Club CEO and President John Hawkins, Director of Communications and Marketing Robert Larios, Club Counselor Arlene Herrero and AIG Branch Manager Daniel Wang attended on behalf of the Club.

Guests enjoyed a social hour; a holiday photo

as a souvenir; great food and music; and a slide show provided by Daryl Lewis, Police Officer 3.

Also, Sgt. George Cauford announced his retirement after 35 years of service. He was presented a plaque by Deputy Chief Lee Carter on behalf of Chief William Bratton. George said his retirement party is set for Feb. 9 at the Police Academy.

Special thanks to Captains Smith and Wakefield and Cathy Susim for inviting the Club to attend.



From left: Capt. Andrew Smith, Commanding Officer, Central Community Police Station, Club Member; and guest Leann Rupprecht.



From left: Wanda Epps, Management Analyst, Club Member; and guest Natalie Esser.



Daryl Lewis, P3, provided great music and slide show.



Deputy Chief Lee Carter presents a plaque to Sgt. George Cauford on behalf of Chief William Bratton.



From left: Chris Jarvis, P2 Bike Officer; Susana Galasgow, guest; Tina Martin, guest; and Willie Carter, Police Officer, Club Member



From left: Diane and Deputy Chief Lee Carter, Central Bureau; Dena Carreyn, Deputy Chief Attorney.



From left: Russ Long, Detective III; Emmett Badar, Detective III, with his wife, Pamela; and Manuel Arambula, P2.



From left: Terry Casas, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member; Francine Acuna, Secretary; and Maria Vite, Clerk Typist.



From left: Cynthia James, Secretary, Club Member; Asta Webster, P2, Club Member; and May Wald, guest.



Standing, from left: Cathy Susim, PSR II, Club Member, and her husband, Reggie. Seated: Silvia Aguirre, Sr. Clerk Typist; Angela Perez, Management Analyst; and Elena Minguillan, Management Analyst.



From left: Kristy Chavarria, P2; and Tim Nordquist, Detective I.



From left: Jamie Bennett, Detective I, with his wife, Jennifer.

# Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Tess Cordero, Carmen Steward and Linda Garza.



From left: Roberta Costello, Lisa Adams and Bruce Meyers.



From left: Steve Rumsey, Ruben Vasquez and Alvinicia Williams.



From left: Victor Manzo, Richard O'Neal, Adrian Barrera and Blanca Barrera.

## Holidays Under Contract

### ■ Contract Administration ushers in the holidays.

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor



From left: Tommy Ho, Lloyd Rein, Randall Macfavlane and Melva Baker.

**CONTRACT ADMIN.** — The Bureau of Contract Administration hosted a holiday luncheon Dec. 15 at the Taix Restaurant in Los Angeles. Employees were treated to lunch, and games, and lots of gifts were given out.

The Club was happy to take part in the festivities.



From left: Ray Sanchez, Tewelde Kidane, Chris Cox, Frank Rinaldi, Roay Jtilson, Ferdows Shadpour and Red Medina.



John Reamer, Director, and Walter Bradley, Assistant Director, compete in the gift-wrap challenge.



From left to right: Tom Cazares, Larry Williams, Will Windham and Marc Wright.



From left: Kimberly Mitchell, Abigail Dean, Usha Papa and Dale Kanegawa.



From left to right: Caryn De Prez, Rick De La Huelga, Henry Shackelford and Chris Smith.



Adrian Barrera and Blanca Barrera wrap their gifts together.



Brenda Arroyo and Ying Chen.



From left: Anthony Garcia, Peter Rhyu and Sepou Ohanian.



From left: Jason Tokushige, Larry Reynosa and Joy Gaddi.



Phyllis Reysen.



Sherrie Williams and James Feagin.

# Holiday Wrap-up



Raul Acosta and Lieza Arellano.



From left: Lamont Hayes and Tenisha Webb.



Armando and Elsa Perez.



David and Shawnay Carlson.



From left: Alex Angel and Leticia Lopez.



Bobby and Donna Urssery.



Todd Tate.



From left: Lupe and Jose Ramos.

## East Valley's First

### ■ East Valley Yard has its first holiday party.

*Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director Communications and Marketing*

**PUBLIC WORKS** — Sanitation's East Valley Yard celebrated its first-ever holiday party Dec. 17 at Fairways Restaurant and Tavern in Pacoima.

The party, called "A Year to Remember," was hosted by Ron Lee. It was a traditional holiday event with dinner for employees, family and friends; door prizes; dancing, and a video of the year in review.

The Club thanks Adriana Nunez for her assistance.



Billy and Mary Medina.



From left: Adriana Nunez, Anthony Fenderson, Veronica Camacho and Master of Ceremonies Ron Lee.



From left: John Pegg and Sal Hernandez.



Art and Mina Sanchez.



From left: Rochelle Pegg and Elsie Cole.



Ernie and Sofia Chavez.



Rita and Ron Cole handled the registration booth.



Timothy and Cynthia Spears.



From left: Ron Esquibel and Anthony Hatten, aka DJ Sweat, from the North Central Yard.

# Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Aaron Ebert, guest, and Sylvia Mills, P.S.R. II.



From left: Carlos McClellan, guest; Celia McGreggor, P.S.R.II; Dorian Butler, P.S.R. II; and Daniel Burrus, guest.



From left: Sharon Howze, P.S.R. II; Kathy Schamber, P.S.R. II; and Thomas Schamber.



Capt. Sharyn Buck, Communications Division Commanding Officer, and her husband, Jim.

## Communicating the Holidays

### ■ LAPD Communications hosts holiday party.

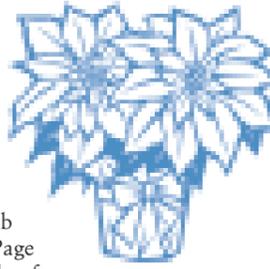
Story by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru  
Photos by Jessie Cruz, Assistant

POLICE DEPT. — The LAPD Communications Division threw its annual holiday party Dec. 18 at the Universal Sheraton Hotel in Universal City.

Among the entertainment was a magician from the Magic Castle, a D.J., and a comedic

M.C. Everyone got their groove on out on the dance floor, thanks to Captain Buck, who initiated the dancing.

The Club thanks Tracy Page and Yvette Bentley for inviting us.



From left: Beverly Jones, guest, and Marlo Jones, P.S.R.



From left: Officer Robert Mokricky, guest; Valerie Mokricky, P.S.R. II; Iris Sanchez, P.S.R. III; and Officer Creighton Dawson, guest.



From left: Luisa Goodwin, P.S.R. II; Rosalia Pasos, P.S.R. II; Andrea Rayburn, P.S.R. III; and Sally Rayburn, guest.



From left: Jean Sarfaty, P.S.R. and Alive! Popcorn enthusiast; Ron Sarfaty, guest; and Sue Lepre, P.S.R.



From left: Aimee Ponce; Sgt. Aaron Ponce; Sgt. Keith Bushley; and Cathy Bushley, Senior P.S.R.



From left: Sylvia Robinson, P.S.R. III, and Ruben Licon, guest.



From left: Larry Gates, P.S.R. II; Jared Case, guest; Amy Case, P.S.R. II; and Michael Schmidt, P.S.R. II.



From left: Luis Gallardo, guest; Kimberlee Gallardo, P.S.R.; and Deanne Avery, P.S.R. II.



Top, from left: Mary Vega, P.S.R., and Tammy Lindquist, P.S.R. III. Bottom: Phil Graciano, guest; Karen Koukal, P.S.R.; and Yvette Salazar, P.S.R.



From left: Cynthia Martinez, guest; Hope Wright, Police Service Representative (P.S.R.); Gloria Martinez, P.S.R.; and Dawne Ross, P.S.R.



From left: Sandra Pollard, Senior P.S.R., and Willie Thomas, guest.



From left: Angel Sanchez, guest, and Lori Garcia, P.S.R. III.

# Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Arleen Ancheta; Maria Martinez; Remigio Ilano; Evelyn Martinez, Club Member; Patricia Dorsey, Club Member; and Silvestre Dipasupil.



From left: Martin Lainez; Henry Lee, Club Member; and Richard Grodahl, ArcSight.



Standing, from left: Albert Colon, Club Member, and Pat Pine. Seated: Arthur Sales, Thomas Nguyen, Ed Malabanan and Assem Elayyat.



From left: JP Del Mundo; Ryan Wood; Bill Creitz as Santa; and Iain Blackwood.



Thera Bradshaw, ITA General Manager, Club Member with Santa. Santa is none other than ITA's very own Bill Creitz.

## ITA: Holiday Music

■ ITA celebrates the holidays with lots of music.

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

ITA — The City's technology department, ITA, celebrated the holidays Dec. 15 at the New Otani Hotel downtown.

Club counselor Arlene Herrero was invited, and the Club donated prizes for the event.

Guests enjoyed a buffet-style lunch and a silent auction. Shirts were given to each employee with an ITA logo designed by contest winner Kim Ly.

Executive Sponsor was Gene Gamachi, Office of Enterprise Services. Event Committee Chairperson was Greg Steinmehl.

The ITA 2005/06 Event Coordination Committee consisted of:

Fundraising and Event Coordinators: Peter Benjamins, Fazeel Chauhan, Carmen Contreras,

Donna Dowe, Erma Dozier, Sandy Eng, Terry Hadley, Amy Lava, Evelyn Martinez, Marguerite Nourian and Emily Tran.

Committee Support Members: Miguel Collins, Silvestre Dipasupil, Pat Dorsey, Rhonda Edwards, Martin Lainez, Henry Lee and Luis Rodriguez.

Special Thanks for Support to: Brian Biggs, Doris Bruton, Rosemary Delgado Reindert Kok, Vera Shepperd, Nee Troung and Nancy Wilson.

Guests also had a chance to enjoy music from: The 2005 ITA Holiday Band (Santa's Band), consisting of Dave Curry, Dan Ritter, Chito Pastor, Iain Blackwood, Joe Deveau, Ryan Wood and Jonathan Biton.

Individual singers: Jim Humphrey sang "O

Holy Night." Stuart Campbell sang "Hard to Say I'm Sorry." Veronica Grayson sang "Silent Night."

The Don't Quit Your Day Job Band: Mike Frassrand, Bob Taylor, Dave Ryan, JP Del Mundo, Ken Alexander and Stuart Campbell.

The Instrumental Trio: Dave Ryan, Bob Taylor and Ken Fitzer.

Ray and the Rayettes (3-1-1 Call Center): Robert Cook, Larry Steiner, Nyeesha Dotson, Elizabeth Barfield, Karen Estrada, Veronica Hester Allen and Debra Durham.

JP's Band: JP Del Mundo, Stuart Campbell, Ken Alexander and Dave Curry.

The Club thanks Gene Gamachi for his assistance.



From left: Victoria Fragoso and Carr Oduro.



From left: Eduardo Magos, Club Member, and Kok Reindert.



From left: Maria Gonzalez and Lucy Clark.



From left: Lisa Claro, Club Member; Maricel Reyes; Marvin Avila; Ed Gibbs, DynTek; Chris Chu; and DynTek.



From left: Victor Marrero and Enrique Sanchez.



From left: Monte Lim; Emma Jack; Nestor Acio, Club Member; Maria Gonzalez; and Sandra Valdez, Club Member.



From left: Prestonia Dotch, Club Member; Brenda Reed, Club Member; Theresa Magabilin, Club Member, with her husband, Gabriel Magabilin; and James Huynh.



Seated: Fazeel Chaunhan. Standing: Emily Tran.



From left: Chito Pastor; Trevor Jacobs; Joe Deveau; Mike Frassrand; Dave Curry; and David Ryan.



From left: Robin Cannon, Club Member; Rosie Delgado, Club Member; and Charlotte Bullock, Club Member.



The buffet line.



From left: Blaine Cavena, IBM; Ted Uberti, IBM; Greg Steinmehl, Manager, Enterprise Network Operations Support; and Deborah Lis, IBM.



From left: Sithat Chheang and Sam Aishairai.



Standing, from left: Lou Lavarro, Club Member; Amy Lava; and Edwin Lorenzana. Seated: Sandy Rangel, Club Member; Irene Watanabe; Joy Magallanes; Ray Torres, Club Member; and Loi Paguya.

# Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Toni Chagolla, Clerk Typist, Club Member; Lourdes Lozano, Clerk Typist; and guests Samantha Zamora and Shanda Fernandez.



From left: Marlis and Manfred Horning, Retired; and Nancy and Jacque Lorraine, Automotive Supervisor, Club Member.



From left: Rachelle Jimenez; Johnny Berru, RCTO II, Club Member; and Peter Gonzalez, RCTO, Club Member, with his wife, Jennifer.

## Holidays, in the West

### ■ West LA Sanitation yard celebrates.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

**PUBLIC WORKS** — Sanitation's West LA Yard held its holiday party for employees, friends and

family Dec. 10 at the Quiet Cannon VIP Room in Montebello.

Club Counselor Arlene Herrero was invited, and the Club donated prizes for event. Guests dined on chicken or steak.

Special thanks go to Marviana Jones, Lloyd Gaines, Wortham Briscoe and Bonaventure Butts.



From left: Francisco Castro, RCTO, Club Member, and his wife, Gladys; with guests Maria Martinez and Rufino Martinez.



From left: Anita Lyons; Paul Porter, RCTO, Club Member; Misti Jenkins, guest; and April Broussard, Clerk Typist, Club Member.



Scotty Stanton, RCTO, Club Member, with his wife, Tonia, spouse.



Anthony Wiggins, RCTO, with his wife, Monair.



From left: Danette Matthews, guest, with Corey Stewart, RCTO.



From left: Cynthia and Marshall Turner, RCTO II, Club Member, with daughters Majasyn, and Mary.



From left: Richard Humphrey, RCTO, Club Member, and Isaiah Lucas, RCTO, Club Member.



From left: Richard Myles, Division Manager and his wife; Wortham Briscoe, Club Member, and his wife, Debbie; and Sal Miranda, Solid Resource Manager I, Club Member.



From left: Cesar Mendoza, Equipment Mechanic, Club Member, and his wife, Loretta; and Martha and Raul Velasco, RCTO.



From left: Jon Reed, Crew Instructor, Club Member; Bonaventure Butts, RCTO, Club Member; and Emil Polk, RCTO.



From left: Alma and Frank Sanchez, RCTO, Club Member; and Sonia and Raul Cobos, RCTO, Club Member.



From left: Lewis Cox, RCTO; and Sherry Cox, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member.



From left: Joseph Norwood, RCTO, with his wife, Wilhelmina; and Leatrice and Donald Brown, RCTO.



Back: Bonaventure Butts, RCTO, Club Member. Seated, from left: daughter Bridgette Robinson, Motor Officer, South Traffic; and wife, Vanessa.



From left: Sandy and Dan Braviroff, Equipment Mechanic, Club Member; and Dan Parker, Equipment Repair Supervisor, Club Member, with his wife, Shery.



From left: Lloyd Gaines, WLA Superintendent, and wife, Dorita; Ken Williams, Supervisor Green Commodity, Club Member, and his wife, Terri.



From left: Moniquea McKee, Clerk Typist, Club Member; and guests Yolanda Blessitt and LaVelle Harris.



From left: Guests Drew Davis, Sharleen Feltus, Larceda Harris, and Michael Thomas.



From left: Enos Dennis, RCTO, Club Member; and Alicia Tribble, guest.



From left: Jorge Nesta, RCTO, Club Member, with Sonia Chaidez, guest.

# Holiday Wrap-up



Top, from left: Kyren Harvey, Clerk Typist; Herlinda Rodarte, Personnel Records Supervisor; Jenny Burwell, Senior Clerk Typist; Tina Johnson, Senior Clerk Typist; and Sandra Hicks, Administrative Assistant. Bottom: Lettie Lugardo, Senior Clerk Typist; Eva Lupher, Senior Clerk Typist; Gloria Sosa, Assistant General Manager; Matt Tobias, Management Assistant; and George Skarmeas, Management Assistant.



From left: Mike Wheeler, Senior Personnel Analyst; and Linda Lanier, Senior Personnel Analyst.



From left: Bruce Whidden, Public Information Director and Holiday Party Coordinator; and Maggie Whelan, General Manager.



From left: Joyce Walker, Senior Clerk Typist; Jolene Reyes, Commission Executive Assistant; and Jackie Zarate, Senior Personnel Analyst.



From left: Gail Thomas, Chief Personnel Analyst; Cathy Teoh, Personnel Analyst II; Kim Boyd, Senior Personnel Analyst; and Nancy Farra, Senior Personnel Analyst.



From left: Mike Gold, Senior Personnel Analyst; Elizabeth, Senior Clerk Typist; Andrea Poma, Clerk Typist; and Elmer Romero, Senior Clerk Typist.



From left: Phyllis Yogi, Senior Personnel Analyst; Jurutha Brown, Chief Personnel Analyst; and Lupe Durazo, Hearing Reporter.



From left: Rizza Abuan, Management Assistant; Stephanie Holloman, Classification Analyst; and Luis Reyes, Management Assistant.



From left: Victoria Schools, Commissions Executive Assistant; Diana Lozano, Senior Personnel Analyst; and Pat Taylor, Senior Clerk Typist.



Top, from left: Cedric Reid, Personnel Analyst; Tina Lizada, Clerk Typist; J. Jones, Clerk Typist; Michael Daco, Management Assistant; and Nadia Sahabian, Senior Clerk Typist. Bottom: Jennifer Ruidera, Systems Analyst; Eme Villanueva, Personnel Analyst; Theresa Lee, Personnel Analyst II; Olivia Flores, Public Safety Bureau, Background Investigation Div.; and Kathleen FATHERRE, Senior Personnel Analyst.



In no particular order: Adriana Hawkins, Gardener/Caretaker; Ruby Ceballos, Sr. Parks Maintenance Supervisor; and John Fernandez.



From left: Jennie Mc Nary, Curator of Mammals; Eddie Garcia, Zoo Operations; and David Costa, Sr. Gardener.

## A Personnel Holiday

### ■ Personnel has holiday luncheon.

Story and photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

**PERSONNEL** — The Personnel Department threw its annual holiday luncheon Dec. 15 at the Omni Los Angeles Hotel in Downtown L.A.

Many people were in attendance, and the event included some great giveaways.

The Club thanks Jackie David for inviting us.

## A Zoo of a Holiday

### ■ Griffith Park facility welcomes the holidays.

Story and photos by Bev Haro, Club Counselor

**ZOO** — The LA Zoo employees welcomed in the holidays with a party Dec. 14 at the Zoo's Treetops Terrace.

The event began with a magic act performed by Justin Kredible. The luncheon followed

courtesy of Service America.

Each zoo employee received a raffle ticket. Prizes included gift certificates to restaurants, movie tickets, amusement park tickets and much more.

The party ended with 10 karaoke contestants singing holiday songs. The audience voted for the winner, who won a

\$500 grand prize. He was from the Construction division. Each person left the party with a smile and a chocolate condor egg.



The karaoke contestants.



Employees from Membership, Admissions, and Education.



Liz Reyes and Gina Dartt in front of the raffle table.



From left: Animal Keepers Cathy Christel, Angela Anderson and Lynda Paul.



From left: Patty Rodriguez, Clerk Typist for Grounds Maintenance; and Robert Rodriguez, Computer Operator.



Zoo employees enjoy the party.



From left: Tony Mirabal, Gardener/Caretaker; Henry Hernandez, Mechanic I Repairer II; and Tony Dominguez



Employees from Membership, Admissions, and Education.



Attendees included Officers Susan Greenberg, Gil Moreno, Byron Criddle, Troy Boswell, Hugh Briefman, Ernesto Poblano, Regina Suenaga, Sean McCarthy, Verna Riparip and Oscar Peregrina; Animal Care Technicians Jacob Miller, Loyd Garens and Armando Pasillas; Lieutenants Michelle Roache and Jan Selder; and Captains Wendell Bowers, Theodore Berquist and Louis Dedeaux.

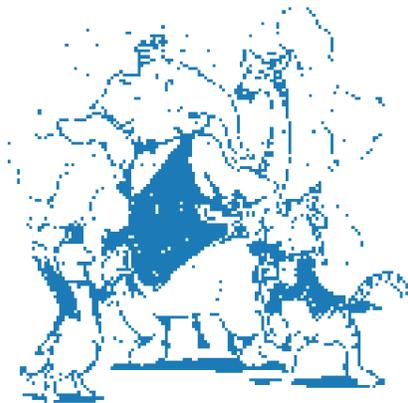
# Party (for the) Animals

■ **Animal Services says thanks with party for those who provided exemplary service during recent firestorms.**

Story and photos provided by Karen Knipscheer, Animal Services Public Information Officer

**ANIMAL SERVICES** — It was a wonderful night of good food and good friends when Animal Services hosted a party for its employees, Emergency Equine Rescue Team, Pierce College, Hansen Dam Equestrian Center, LAPD Mounted Patrol, Los Angeles County Animal Control, DaMoore Feed and Tack and Los Angeles Equestrian Center for the great job they did in the recent Topanga Firestorm.

Guerdon Stuckey, General Manager, shared with the guests the awards the department received from the House of Representatives and Councilman Dennis Zine. Then Guerdon gave out commendations to all who worked during this time of emergency. The commendations read, "Thank you for your exemplary hard work and dedication to 'Saving Animals' Lives' in relation



to the recent fires. Your efforts resulted in the rescue of many horses and various other animals in their time of need during this emergency.

"On behalf of the City of Los Angeles, Department of Animal Services, I am pleased to recognize you and your staff for their outstanding assistance and cooperation in assisting us to house animals during the Topanga Wildfires, 2005. Your hard work and dedication made the saving of animals' lives successful."

More than 100 people were scheduled to attend.



Guerdon Stuckey, General Manager, and Officer Eric Gardner.



Guerdon Stuckey, General Manager, and Officer Troy Boswell.



Attendees.

# The Pet Club

## Making Pet Resolutions

■ **Here are some questions to take care of your pet.**

Let's start the New Year right by congratulating the new pet owners/guardians for their newest family member(s). With your newest family member comes a great lifetime of responsibility. Get to know your pet and its care needs; take it to a licensed veterinarian and get all the necessary shots; and continue to follow up on them throughout its lifetime. Also consult with your veterinarian about proper care for your pet along with the proper foods, treats and the right amount to feed your pet to avoid future medical problems. Consult a trainer for possible behavioral problems. i.e.: barking, biting, chewing, digging, jumping, escaping, urinating and defecating where it's not desired. Also, teach your young children how to handle your pet properly so that your pet doesn't bite them from fear or pain.

Existing pet owners/guardians should make some New Year's resolutions to improve life for both you and your pet. What resolutions would be good for you or your pet? Does your dog bark excessively? Explore training options. Does your dog escape? How does it escape? How do I stop it? Does my dog need some training or additional training? Do I need to increase his/her exercise? Is my pet overweight? Do I need to put him/her on a diet? Am I feeding the wrong food for his/her age, breed, or the wrong amount? Am I not providing the right amount of exercise for

my pet? When was the last time my pet(s) was seen by our veterinarian? Is it time to update my pet vaccines? Does my pet need to be sterilized? How much does it cost, and what are the advantages? Is my dog licensed? Do I know the animal laws for the City of Los Angeles? These are great questions for you to determine what New Year's resolutions you can make to better the life of you and your pet. Explore your options by consulting your veterinarian, trainer or LA Animal Services. You can visit the Website: [www.laanimalservices.com](http://www.laanimalservices.com).



For the non-pet owners/guardians, here are some questions: o I want a pet? What kind of animal do I want? What are the responsibilities? Do I have enough time for an animal? Do I have enough space? What are the benefits? How much does a pet cost? Is it a lifetime commitment? Do I have enough love to give to an animal? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you may be ready for a pet and you can visit any one of six LA City shelters. For more info visit our Website: [www.laanimalservices.com](http://www.laanimalservices.com). If you answered no, then maybe you are not ready and should not consider a pet at this time.

Please, make a New Year's resolution today to better enjoy our lives with our very much-loved pets.

### Send Questions

This month's column was written by Animal Services Public Information Officer D. Clark.

Feel free to send questions and concerns to me, and I'll be happy to respond to them in my column. I'm excited about this, so don't hesitate! Write to me at: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Haven House

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



# El Pueblo Monument Back on Track

## Alive! Interview

Continued from Page 1

showed. What were the top two pressing issues when former Mayor Hahn said, "Rushmore, take the reins"?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Well it had to be, as you mentioned, the many items that were detailed in the audit report: The uncertainty of cash, the uncertainty of where the cash was being held, the accountability/recording of rental receipts as well as ensuring that the rents were being paid. So we had to address procedures, policies as to how we were handling the books. And then, working with the merchants to try to get them to pay their rents. We were very successful in doing so. It was actually relatively easy in a sense because we gave the merchants options. I went to the commission, and I said, look, some of these people ... we had one that had owed like \$137,000, so obviously they're not going to be able to pay in a two-month period. So we worked out a program that we made available to all the merchants - a repayment plan over a two-year period. They had to pay 25 percent down, and then they had to repay the remaining portion over the next two years. The other option was if they didn't want to pay either in full or go into the payment option, they could just leave. And we actually [got] to the point of providing eviction notices. We weren't going to mess around. So in turn we had everyone pay. The one that had the largest amount, \$137,000, they paid it in full.

**Alive!:** A hundred and thirty seven thousand?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** A hundred thirty seven thousand, right. It was rather significant. There were many other issues relative to how things operated here - poor record-keeping [and] poor accountability of staff.

### PREPARATION

**Alive!:** What equipped you to be the right person for this job at this time?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Well, first, I've been in the City for a lengthy period of time. I've had exposure in different departments, and I have a no-nonsense approach. And I'm not a general manager due to an ego that [makes me] have to be at the top. I was asked to come here to do a job and to fix it, and I do that with no delusions of grandeur, no self-interest other than doing what's best for the City and what's best for the department. And that means making tough decisions and doing things the right way. Doing things the right way is not always the fun way; it isn't always the easiest way. We break it down to the simplest level and say, "What are our missions? What are our goals? Okay, then how do

we attain those?" Then we have to set the balls in position, and we had to follow those. And that means working with the merchants and certainly within the department itself.

What gave me the tools? I have quite a financial background. I worked in the CAO's office. I know how the City departments work. I've worked at the Department of Aging, and had some management experience before. And a no-nonsense approach.

**Alive!:** Anything prior the City: education, schooling, parents or ...

**Rushmore Cervantes:** I didn't come to the City until I was 30, so I had a finance background. I was a stockbroker for several years and I was in commercial consumer financing. So I had exposure in that realm. I had a business degree.

**Alive!:** From where?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Cal Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks. And I was in the Marine Corp.

**Alive!:** For how many years?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** I was active for two, and then did reserves as well.

**Alive!:** Where were you stationed?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Out in Twentynine Palms.

**Alive!:** In the desert.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Yes, a desert rat.

**Alive!:** What did you do?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Infantry.

**Alive!:** So you carried a gun.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Exactly.

**Alive!:** What kind?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** An M-16. [With] that type of [military] discipline, you can take anything.

**Alive!:** Once a marine, always a marine.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Yes, you just do it. And you just do the right thing. [At El Pueblo,] we took everything apart piece by piece and built it back together. There were some vacancies here, so I went to the Council and I said, "Look, the audit's here, this is what they have found. But there's actually more. I

found even more. So you should know this. There are many other things they didn't identify." I said, "Look, if you want this department to turn around, this is my suggestion, you need to do this, this and this. You need to provide me the appropriate resources here and I need 'X' number of positions if you want to fix this place." And fortunately because I have a reputation in the City of being forthright...

**Alive!:** Not asking for more than you really need.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Right, I was very conservative; I think I can live within my means. I think I can do this and I have a very good relationship with the CAO's office. They said, okay, he needs this, let's get it for him. And we were able to get someone with a real estate background to be a property manager, a

true property manager.

**Alive!:** Full-time?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Full-time.

**Alive!:** City employee?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Yes.

**Alive!:** Who is that?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Steve O'Hare. He came from the Van Nuys Airport. And then we have the department's first public relations specialist.

**Alive!:** Who's that?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** John Kupczinski. We're doing public outreach. I reorganized the department and created a more refined marketing and events division and then really pushed the envelope with film companies.

### REVENUES

**Rushmore Cervantes:** There are really three ways that the monument makes money: through parking revenue, through the leases, and through site usage.

Parking revenue is steady; it's up. We've recently raised the rates and we will see an increase over the current fiscal year. The revenue from the leases is going to remain relatively constant because we're getting the rates at a regular clip and very few past dues now. And when we do have past dues, we have a very short leash and I'll threaten eviction. I don't play around.

The other area is site usage, and that means through events or through film companies and



## Rushmore Cervantes

General Manager,  
El Pueblo Historic Monument

<b>Hometown:</b>	Woodland Hills
<b>Marital status:</b>	Single
<b>Education:</b>	Bachelor's degree, California Lutheran University, Thousand Oaks
<b>Favorite philosophy:</b>	"All you have in your City career is your integrity and your reputation. And any actions you take you have to be mindful of that and be able to stand behind any action you take."
<b>More of a leader or a manager?</b>	"Leader, absolutely."
<b>Favorite candy:</b>	"I don't eat sweets."
<b>Favorite food:</b>	Mexican. Carnitas.

## The Alive! Interview

photo shoots. We created a very customer-service-oriented approach with film scouts, and we've had a number of different shoots here. The comments we get back from the site managers or the site scouts is that, boy, this is so much nicer than it has been in the past. We accommodate them and we have fair rates. We do assessments every year to see where our rates are relative to other facilities around the downtown area, to find out if they're comparable. And then, after that, it's just customer service: how can we improve it, how can we help you.

**Alive!** Any films of note?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Alias has been here.

**Alive!** They're around here a lot.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** There was a recent pilot that was shot here that was picked up and they're going to come back and shoot; they're going to start shooting some additional scenes here. A lot of commercials are shot here. And actually what's interesting is, in addition to generating revenue for the monument, what's really made it beneficial is ... when film companies came here, they'd leave the place trashed. I said, "You need to give me a \$3,000 deposit to make sure this place is cleaned up. I'll give it back to you if it's clean. If not, guess what, I'm keeping the money." And it's amazing the transformation in their ability to clean the place up afterwards and give it back. It's absolutely amazing. That has been very effective in helping us in our maintenance and custodial. It's been wonderful.

The other part I wanted to say is having these different film shoots here is actually a tourist draw. People come here from the tour buses and they hear about Hollywood and Los Angeles and they'll say, boy look, they're shooting something, let's go. And they sit there and they'll take photographs and it's really kind of intriguing.

### STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY

**Alive!** This really is a City landmark culturally, socially, educationally and recreationally. But it was really in trouble, wasn't it?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Very much so, very much in financial trouble. And actually from a structural standpoint it was not doing well. The integrity of the structure was in question, and it still is to a certain degree. The City is moving forward to address that. We're working very closely with the Fire Department and the Department of General Services. We've addressed all the fire life safety issues on Olvera Street in particular. And as you may have heard, we also have a rather substantial allocation of monies to start doing significant renovations here at the monument, the first of which is going to be starting in September.

**Alive!** Is that the \$12 million?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** That's MICLA [Municipal Improvement Corporation of Los Angeles], but there are also other monies. There's Cal grant monies and other pots of money in here as well. There's more than \$12 million. We're going to start Sept. 12 with the installation of some new bathrooms that's going to take about five months or so. We're going to start also on the 19th with a sidewalk renovation. It will look really nice.

In addition, we're going to do a complete renovation of the Plaza as well kind of opening up a stairway to make it more pedestrian-friendly for people who are coming from Union Station to enter that area. In addition, while we are doing that work, we'll [do] a complete utility survey of Olvera Street – electrical, sewer, plumbing – and now we're going to be working with the historian/consultants to determine

how we go about restoring the puestos. Those are the wooden shacks that are on the long center as well as on the east. We need to take each one of those out, most of which are considered historic[and] get a historic study done.

**Alive!** At what age do they become historic?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Fifty years. So now we have to go through a consultant to develop specific plans as to how we go about renovating them up to the historic period piece, a historic standard. And then, we're going to restore all of them and we're going to get all of the buildings, not only the clusters but all the buildings up to building safety code: electrical, structurally everything.

**Alive!** Do you have a favorite vendor down here?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** No, they're all my friends.

**Alive!** Are there any items that intrigue you?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** I think, as an example, Alvarita's Village, which is W-24, has very nice merchandise. You should check that out, it's very nice.

**Alive!** So this cultural landmark's on the way back. We are breathing a sigh of relief and clapping and really, really celebrating that.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** I absolutely agree. It's really been a shame. I think it's been a sore [point] for the City for many years that it was basically left with little or no maintenance. [Bring it back up again had to do with] the audit hitting rock bottom and having somebody to come in who has the credibility and say, this is what we need to do and we're going to do things the right way. I'm not flashy, I just do what we need to do and do it best for the City. It gives a level of confidence to the Councilmembers, to the mayor and staff. I have relationships with staff members across the City that I can call in a favor. It's all reciprocal, and we help each other out. This is just

wonderful now because all this energy is here and we're moving forward. We've got so many different things and it's a real positive for the City.

**Alive!** And the resources you have are amazing, especially the different departments at your disposal. I saw the Bureau of Engineering here.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Bureau of Engineering, Department of General Services, [right], and we work with the Department of Transportation. They're helping us with the Main Street crosswalk, a pedestrian crosswalk; they're finishing up there. [And] Street Services. Many things [are] going on.

**Alive!** It's a matter of tapping those resources.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Tapping those resources, yes, but you know, people are not going to help a department out if there's a lack of confidence in that department. That's just human nature.

**Alive!** Why?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** It's a losing proposition. Everyone's getting on the bandwagon because we're really moving forward. This is very collaborative. I have a great working relationship with [County Supervisor] Gloria Molina, the Executive Director of the project across the street, Plaza de Cultura y Artes. They have a portion of the monument on that side. I had a meeting with her, a landscape architect and her executive director of the foundation and we reciprocate, share information as to what we're trying to accomplish. That shows you how far we've come, lending a level of credibility and openness: "This is what we're doing; what are *you* doing? Let's collaborate so we can have a wonderful project here." I have a great relationship with [Gloria]. The fact that she's opening up to that level is really wonderful.

– Alive! Interview, continued next page



After the Alive! interview, from left: John Hawkins, Club CEO, and Rushmore Cervantes, El Pueblo General Manager.

## The Alive! Interview



Rushmore Cervantes, El Pueblo General Manager



"You don't invest until the house is in order, and the house is in order now; the momentum is really starting to pick up. I can't tell you how exciting it is to be at the point where the dynamics of downtown are changing and we're right there changing with it. Seeing the interest and the pulse of energy here is really exciting."

### THE AUDITS

**Alive!** Laura Chick made a comment in the LA Times. She said she thinks it's a first that she called out the name of a general manager in the cover letter and praised him. Laura Chick doesn't pull any punches.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** No, she never does. All of the work that we did from the time that I got here: I came here as a result of the [first] audit. All the tremendous work that we did, it wouldn't be null and void but [it] would not be acknowledged or would not be as significant if this audit a year later did not demonstrate that we've accomplished the things that were in this audit. So not only does [the second audit] demonstrate what we've done and how far we've brought this department along, but it also tells the merchants who have always been inviting and always had trouble with the administration, that there's a new sheriff in town and we're doing things the right way. And I shared not only this cover letter but the newspaper articles with them so they know what we're doing up here because they don't understand sometimes. They just think that we're just sitting around not doing anything.

I came here a year ago because of this audit; this is what we're doing now and you should know this, and Laura Chick acknowledged it. From a personal standpoint I'm blown away. I mean it does not get any better than that from a personal career standpoint. It's very gratifying, much more than I expected. I don't have a relationship with Laura Chick at all, and just for her to do that, I take that with tremendous pride.

**Alive!** We kind of keep our ears open, and we heard the nightmare stories.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** I didn't want this job, really. And I was being asked by Hahn's administration, "Do you want the job?" I said no. Two months later: "Do you want the job?" "No, I don't want the job." I was only going to be here for 30 days. I don't know if you knew this, but actually I was given 24-hour notice to come over here. I got a call from Tim McOsker, [who said], "Mayor Hahn would like you to help him out and go over to El Pueblo for a little while." And I said when? "Tomorrow." I'm like oh, okay.

### WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS

**Alive!** When I get off the plane at LAX and go into Hollywood, as a resident I see it in a certain way. I always think, what would a tourist think? If I left and came back five years from now, what will I see at El Pueblo that's different? How will things be different for a tourist coming back five years from now?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** They will see a tremendous difference. The Olvera Street area of the monument will have been completely upgraded: new utility lines, plumbing and sewer lines. That may not make a difference to the tourist, but the Plaza will be completely filled. You'll have the Italian Hall completed, and that will be filled because we're doing work on that facility. We need to have that open

again for the Italian community to show their presence here in Los Angeles. Other facilities such as the Pico House, the Merced Theater ... by the time they come back five years from now they will be completely open and operating.

**Alive!** Will El Pueblo look different?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Well, certainly all the facilities will be filled. So, yes and no. It will look the same, but it'll have a much different feel. It'll be alive because the other side of the monument is mostly vacant. We're going to be releasing requests for proposals for that side of the monument so that we can fill them.

Here at the monument, you've got the Mexican marketplace, you've got a relatively newer area over there that's unutilized, you've got the Merced Theater that was the first City theater. We're going to have a theater there again. The Pico House was originally a French restaurant on the ground floor and a hotel up on the second and third floor. We'll have some form of a restaurant down there, probably a high-end restaurant with office space and whatnot. We're going to try to create an environment here with those facilities and some other smaller ones that are still vacant that we're going to fill, to create a nice synergy for everyone in the downtown area. You've got residential units going up all over the place, including 281 across the street. Guess what, those people need things to do at night; they need things to do during the day that maybe the tourists may not want to do. We're going to have active local facilities here, active operations that will be a draw for them as well.

**Alive!** Do you see more tourists five years from now coming through, more buses bringing people?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Yes.

**Alive!** Obviously that's a good sign. Not only is it good economically, but it's a good sign for LA.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Absolutely.

**Alive!** This should be a landmark.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** And it is a landmark. We have a large number of tour buses that come here on a daily basis. And obviously we want to increase that for the merchants as well as for parking revenue, for people to drive their rental cars here. But at the same time we also want to make it a place for locals to come. So it's a combination of both. We need to be able to demonstrate to the community here as well as the tourists that, in addition to a Mexican marketplace, this is a multicultural community. The founding of Los Angeles by the 44 settlers ... they were culturally diverse as well. And it's a microcosm of the way it is now, so we want to be able to demonstrate the historical perspective of our culture and be able to share that with people.

A couple of things I want to mention also are the Siqueiros mural, a mural that was painted back in 1932 that was whitewashed and was conserved by the Getty Conservation Institute. We have a temporary protective awning on it right now. We're working to try to build a per-

manent protective awning. That'll be spectacular once that's completed.

In addition, of course, you're going to have Gloria Molina project, the Plaza de Cultura y Artes. It'll be very nice.

**Alive!** A lot of people, whether they're in LA or tourists or even City employees, think of El Pueblo as a place to get a good meal, a really nice fun atmosphere kind of place. That it's essentially about food and gifts or arts and crafts kinds of things. But there's a lot more to this. There are cultural aspects, there are educational aspects, there are social aspects to this.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Very much so. We're developing a brand new education program for children to try to educate the young children as they come here, as I came here when I was a fourth grader. [We want] to really give them a grasp of the history here. We work with the Mexican Cultural Institute in this facility as well. They put on cultural events. They actually have a film series all in Spanish during the summer that was just wonderful.

We work with the merchants who run traditional events and they put on workshops, as does the Mexican Culture Institute. As an example, for the Day of the Dead, they put on workshops all week long trying to educate children as to what the meaning of that is. And of course we have the Chinese American Museum here at the monument. We've got the Italian Hall, which, once that gets restored, we're going to have the Italian presence there. We're working on an educational program to talk about the presence of the African American community because there were mulattos and mestizos here who were part of the original founders of Los Angeles. So, with African-American roots and blood, we wanted to talk about that story and their contributions to Los Angeles as well. So we're developing programs to that effect to tell the people the story.

**Alive!** That's part of your mandate.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** One of the tasks. Yes it is, aside from generating additional revenue.

**Alive!** This should be a mecca for that.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** It goes back to my earlier comments that you don't invest until the house is in order. The house is in order now; the momentum is really starting to pick up. I can't tell you how exciting it is to be at the point where the dynamics of downtown are changing and we're right there changing with it. Seeing the interest and the pulse of energy here is really exciting.

### EVENTS

**Alive!** What's the biggest event here?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** There's actually three. There is Cinco de Mayo, a three-day celebration; Mexican Independence Day, coming up shortly; and then we've got the City's birthday, which we just held Sept. 4.

**Alive!** So, it's true that Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa participated in the walk during the City's birthday celebration.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Yes he sure did. He walked the nine miles with us. I walked side by side with him.

**Alive!** And that's the first time since 1981 ...

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Yes, that an active mayor has actually participated in [the walk].

**Alive!** That seems fairly remarkable.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** It's grown in size, and we're helping to promote it, too. When the puebledores who are the descendants of the original founders did the walk in 1981, probably about 25 people walked it. So it has grown. We don't have the final count, but we probably had 400 to 500 people that walked it. So it's grown in stature. And City Councilman, Tom LaBonge, joined us as well. That's great, you know. We got here about 9 o'clock, and we had various City departments participating. We had various artisans who were here from adobe brick makers to pottery makers. We had a blacksmith, people making straw necklaces, and another person making necklaces and wristbands. And God, the entertainment. We had the civic ceremony that went for about a half an hour with the various speeches and the cake cutting, but then we had the entertainment that went from about 9:30 until almost 8 o'clock that night – nonstop entertainment. And people just kept coming and coming and coming. It was really something.

**Alive!** Next year's a big birthday, 225. Are wheels turning for that already?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Yes, we're going to start planning in the next month or so. We're going to work closely with Mayor Villaraigosa, who also wants a big event. He'd like to see this place packed and of course he'd like to see more people walking as well. So we're going to work side by side with his staff to really promote it.

**Alive!** We promoted it in the paper to get City employees participate. I think there are certain departments, the zoo for one, that City employees don't feel connected to. And part of our mission is to try and connect all these. We got a letter to the editor in the issue that's just hitting the streets now where a person wrote in and said he was a City employee, but had no idea that the Zoo was even a part of the City.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** I was speaking to somebody in the Planning Department three weeks ago [who said], "I had no idea that El Pueblo was even a department." I'm like, "What?" But I don't take it personally.

**Alive!** That just makes it more fun to change that perspective.

### NOTHING QUITE LIKE IT

**Alive!** Are there any other cities that have influenced what you do? Whether it was Old Town Pasadena or Old Town San Diego. Is there anybody or any organization that has done something that you'd like to mirror or take examples from?

## The Alive! Interview

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Yes and no. I think that the remaining vacant structures that we have are very specific. We want to adhere to the integrity of what they were, i.e., the Merced Theater. It was a live theater; we want to have it a live theatre again.

And the Pico House was a hotel. We'll have probably offices instead of the hotel but a restaurant down below. The Masonic Hall at the very end. It's almost like we had the Masons back in there. There is a certain level of marketability about Old Town Pasadena. The Third Street Promenade we're not. We don't want to compete with them. We have our own kind of unique identity. We have to have a certain historical flavor to El Pueblo that's going to make it unique. We want to introduce some higher-end businesses, but at the same time, everyone has to be mindful of the history. There will have to be certain historical themes with whatever they produce or whatever they develop in those facilities. That will be their mandate as we award a contract. A certain percentage of the work has to have a theme of historical presence.

**Alive!** What's different here than at other places in your career?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** I loved my experience at the CAO's office, the City Administrative Officer. They're basically the financial advisers for the mayor and Council. They do the budgets for the mayor. I really enjoyed the time working with the finances. I was the analyst for the housing department and I worked on a lot of CRA [Community Redevelopment] projects. I really enjoyed the capital project aspect of it. But the problem was that, as analysts, you wouldn't really create anything.

What I like really about this job is that I kind of get the best of both worlds. We're providing a service to the community and at the same I get to work with capital projects as we're looking to build this place out. Obviously this was a big mess and we spent a lot of time dealing with those issues. We've got all the policies and procedures in place; we trust all the recommendations and implemented them. Now it's time to move forward. Now we're just really pushing the envelope when it comes to marketing and I've really got my hands on the marketing aspect. We're really developing educational components. We're looking at this and making sure that we maximize the revenue in parking. We just recently raised the rates. I worked with General Services. I pushed that through the commission to get that approved. Now we get to look at capital projects. I'm working weekly with Bureau of Engineering and the General Services construction forces. I had a meeting yesterday with the merchants to give them an update when things are going to begin. And this gets me excited. I mean I really love that stuff.

**Alive!** Tell us about Fr. Serra Park.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** It's part of the monument. I want to convert it to an educational center so that kids can go there and sit in the grassy area and be able to get taught lessons. At the same time we have to mediate the homeless issues there because they congregate there; it's a public park. But if you convert the usage into an educational center then homeless can't [congregate] there. I'm working with a church right now [La Placita], trying to figure out ways we could address the homeless issue. They're the ones who feed the homeless and provide social services, so that's the church we have to work with closely. It's a real struggle dealing with the homeless issue because, with that you've got drug activity, you've got prostitution and just the presence of homeless. I work closely with LAPD as well, dealing with those issues.

And I can't forget I'm a professional party planner now. I mean, all these events. It's non-stop. We've got to make sure everything's met and we've got the proper, equipment here. It's kind of funny.

**Alive!** Is this an evenings and weekends job?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Very much so. I'm here quite a bit. As any general manager does, they have to go to events. There are a lot of things going here; it's a seven-day-a week job.

### CIVIL SERVICE

**Alive!** Talk about the best qualities of City employment and being a civil servant.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** I've been very fortunate. I've been at the right place at the right time. There's a certain level of luck, because in 12 years I've done pretty well. Part of it I think I've earned through a tremendous level of integrity and work ethic. And I think it's important for City employees who want to achieve to really get a grasp of the big picture, understand what the department's trying to achieve or what the City's trying to achieve, more so than just what they're trying to create within their own assignment. You've got to think broader as to the mission of their department and how can they improve what they're doing to help the department meet that mission. And then therefore the City can meet its mission.

I think I'm an example of how just a hard-working, non-flashy employee can really achieve levels that were really unexpected. I didn't expect this. I didn't come to the City expecting certainly to be here at El Pueblo or be a general manager this quick.

**Alive!** Would you say that luck favors the prepared?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** No. No. I think that there's a price you pay for success, and I pay the price.



After the Alive! interview, from left: Rushmore Cervantes, El Pueblo General Manager, and John Hawkins, Club CEO.

**Alive!** And you pay it now.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** I pay it now; I paid it before I got the job. So otherwise they wouldn't have called me to come here. I don't look for jobs. I believe that it finds you and this found me.

I don't worry about the future. I just take care of my business and live by the principles – hard work, integrity, reputation. Everything else will fall in place. I don't play the politics. I'm very politically savvy but I don't play the politics, and there's a difference. And I don't try to get my name in front of everyone. That's just not my job.

**Alive!** And it's a great name by the way.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Oh thank you. I'm very fortunate. I've gotten to know a lot of people in the City. By and large, there are so many great employees in the City, it's just a pleasure to be able to have worked in different departments and get to know them.

**Alive!** I've been around for about 10 years in the City, but as an outsider, not a City employee. I have seen a difference with the mentality, with the energy, with the professionals, with the private enterprise aspect instead of the civil service aspect. Looking at El Pueblo as a business, do you see it?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Absolutely. And I can tell you I've received more than a handful of comments from businesses that we've worked with, and the representatives have said to me, "You've really changed my opinion about government employees." That's icing on the cake; that's what that's all about. I believe in professionalism. I don't believe in government time. I believe in the maximum efficiency. It has to be that way now because the days of fat budgets are over. We're all going to be lean and mean, we're all going to be understaffed, we're all going to be over budget. We've got to live within a smaller budget and we've got to figure out ways to do it. So we have to get creative and you have to be demanding of staff. Everyone has to be able to pull their weight. The days of just sitting there and punching the clock and just watching the clock are over. That's how I lead; we put forth the hours.

But since you asked about luck, you know, there's always luck involved. But I think, just like a golfer, you probably earn some of that luck, too. Or maybe I'm unlucky being here, who the hell knows? Depends who you ask.

**Alive!** I read that, following the audit, Mayor James Hahn responded by appointing a tough former stockbroker. Is that you?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Yes, I guess it is.

**Alive!** Would you say that's pretty accurate?

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Yes. I have the numbers background and a military background. I'm just as a hard-assed worker. So I listen to staff. "How do we do this? This is the problem. Let's cut to the chase. What are your recommendations? Well, you're on the table. This is the best route. Let's go. Move."

**Alive!** Thanks, Rushmore, for your time today.

**Rushmore Cervantes:** Thank you.

## El Pueblo/Olvera Street: A Brief History

Courtesy El Pueblo Historic Monument Website.

El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument is the oldest section of Los Angeles. Each of 27 historic buildings clustered around an old plaza has an exciting story to tell about the people of different ethnic groups who settled here as does the colorful Mexican marketplace on Olvera Street.

### Background

Los Angeles started as a small farming town in an area inhabited by friendly Native American Indians. Under the orders of King Carlos III of Spain, a "pueblo" was founded in 1781 to grow food for the soldiers guarding this far-off territory of Spain.

As the town grew and prospered, retired soldiers were given large portions of land on which to graze their cattle. In 1821, Mexico declared her independence from Spain and successive governors of Alta California gave additional land grants to other settlers including new arrivals from Europe and the east coast of America who liked the climate and the life here. They joined the "Californios" in becoming ranchers, merchants and winemakers.

In 1846 the Mexican American War began and the United States troops took Los Angeles the following year. At first the town retained its customs and traditions but gradually, as the population grew, the professional heart of the City moved southwards. The plaza area then saw many changes. The old landowners who had owned houses around the plaza moved away, new buildings were constructed and the area gradually changed to light industrial and business use. These changes brought in new settlers and the east side of the Plaza became the heart of the City's first Chinatown. French and Italian settlers also arrived in large numbers. All this activity could not prevent the gradual decline of the former pueblo area, which, soon after the turn of the century, turned into a slum.

Thanks to the efforts of a determined woman, Christine Sterling, who recognized the value of the old historic buildings and who cherished the Spanish and Mexican heritage of the City, the Avila Adobe (the City's oldest landmark) was rescued from demolition and became the focal point of Olvera Street, which began a new life as a colorful Mexican marketplace in 1930.

In 1953, a strong effort to preserve the area resulted in the creation of a state historic park. The State of California and the County and City of Los Angeles joined together to purchase the buildings and sites around the plaza. Many years later, recognizing that it is hard for governmental agencies to operate jointly a state historic park in the heart of the City, in 1989 an act was passed turning the Park over to the City of Los Angeles. Now the Monument, as it is called, is a run by the City of Los Angeles. Plans are afoot to restore and develop the historic buildings and to bring more people and opportunities to the area.

# Knatz Is New Harbor Exec.

■ **Geraldine Knatz's expected approval will make her Harbor's first female executive director.**

HARBOR — The Board of Harbor Commissioners, at their last meeting of the 2005 calendar year, voted unanimously in favor of appointing Geraldine Knatz as the Harbor's Executive Director. The action came less than one week after Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa endorsed her. Pending final confirmation by the Los Angeles City Council, Knatz will become the first female chief executive in the history of the Port of Los Angeles.



Geraldine Knatz

"Our board is very impressed with Ms. Knatz's knowledge, energy and commitment to finding solutions to the problems and challenges facing our port," said Los Angeles Harbor Commission President S. David Freeman. "We have a new Mayor, a new Harbor Commission, a new Executive Director, and a new attitude on how to grow our business while reducing pollution.

Together, we've got a lot of work to do, and we look forward to a parade of progress in 2006 and beyond."

Knatz, who started her port career in the

environmental division at the Port of Los Angeles, is currently the Managing Director at the neighboring Port of Long Beach, where she oversees a \$2.3 billion capital improvement program. Her strategic oversight and policy recommendations at the Port of Long Beach have shaped numerous high-profile programs and initiatives in recent years, including the Port's Green Port and Truck Trip Reduction programs. In her previous role as Planning Director for the port of Long Beach, Knatz was responsible for developing land use, transportation and air quality compliance programs, hazardous waste assessment, and wildlife enhancement projects

A New Jersey native, Knatz earned a bachelor of arts in zoology from Rutgers University, a Master of science in environmental engineering from the University of Southern California, and a doctorate in biological sciences also from USC. In addition, she teaches in the civil engineering department at USC. She resides in Long Beach with her husband and two children.

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## John's Picture Perfect Contest

*We Have WINNERS!*

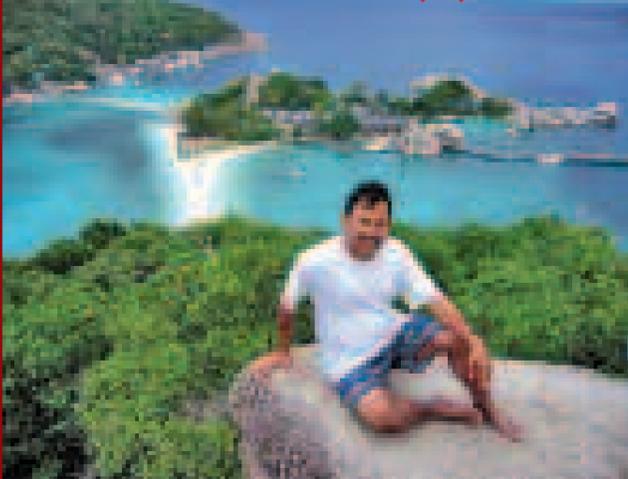
### For January, we have three winners

... and lots of great images!

Start snapping today, and send us your best results! Three winners will receive a gift certificate to Target.

# WIN \$25 TARGET Gift Card

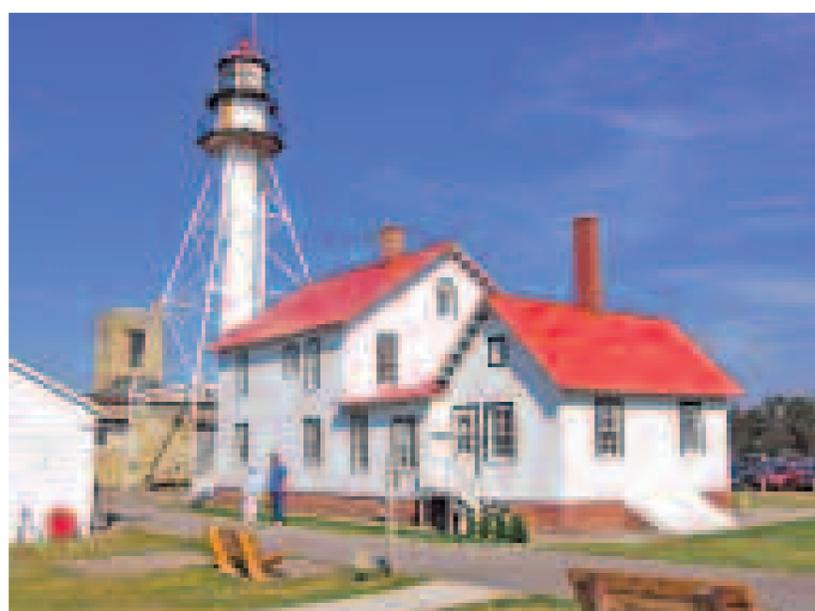
## Three PRIZES



"This is a picture from my vacation in November at Samui Island, south of Thailand."  
— **Tom Theprasit, General Services.**



"This is a picture of 'Kitty' Gonzales. He was my best friend for 20 years, and unfortunately I had to put him to sleep on October 20. Needless to say, my heart was broken into a million pieces, and I am still trying to recover. This picture captures the true essence of Kitty — I caught him 'mid-meow.' I believe this picture depicts him in all his glory."  
— **Ramona Gonzales, Management Analyst II, LAPD/Northeast Community Police Station.**



"This is the lighthouse at Whitefish Point on Lake Superior in Northern Michigan. Whitefish Point is known as the location for the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald. Whitefish Point is now a state park. Pictured is my grandmother, Violet Ramsey, and my father, John Bunjac."  
— **David Bunjac, General Services**

**NEXT DEADLINE: January 15**  
Happy Snapping!

- Rules:**
- The contest is open to all Club members in good standing. Non-members are welcome to submit, but only Club members are eligible to win the monthly prize.
  - If your photograph does not win, you are welcome to re-submit.
  - Winners are chosen by Club staff. All decisions will be final.
  - You must certify (if asked) that you indeed took the picture. No ringers!
  - Photos can be submitted either on paper or digitally. Please don't send both.
  - If you want your print photo returned, please write your name, address and phone number on the back of your photo.
  - Photos can be of any subject matter: vacation, portraits, families, landscapes, still lifes, pets, etc. Subject matter must be appropriate for *Alive!*
  - Paper prints can be mailed to: Picture Perfect Contest, *Alive!*, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071
  - 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.

**Runner Ups:**  
Tom Mullen; Mark Blunk, LACERS; Helen Lopez, Public Works/Bureau of Engineering; Albert Gerardo; Yvonne Liu, Personnel



From left: Gil Arellan, C&M; Clay Sandich, guest; Diosdado Garin, Club Member; and Angel Gomez, the Club's Member Service Manager



From left: Mark Hanse; Mike Rubino, Club Member; Brett McDaniel; John Cameron; and Rick Crowley.



From left: Gary Welding and Henry Martinez.



From Left: Al Takii, Retiree; Martin Lovato, C&M, Club Member; Albert Robles; Ron Sakoda



From left: Daniel Cobos, SLO, Port Police, Club Member; Sgt. Kenneth Hawkes, Port Police, Club Member; David Clements, SLO, Port Police; and Shane Railback.



From left: Kyle Susswain and Ed Kim, Club Member.



From left: Ken Sy, guest; Pablo Ninofranco, retiree, Club Member; Young Park, guest; and Tyler Sparks, guest.



From left: Al Guerrero, SLO, Port Police, Club Member; Lt. Bill Fletcher, Port Police; Sgt. Dan Aleman, Port Police, Club Member; Mike Godward, Port Police; and Jim Holdaway.



From left: Jack Clay; Jin Kim, Club Member; Steve Imparato; and Brian Chuc, Club Member.



From left: Dennis Ogren; Rica Viola, Club Member; Ray Tanner; and Stu Susswain, Club Member.

# Last Golf of Year

## Harbor Employees Association sponsors last golf tournament of the year.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

HARBOR — The Harbor Department Employees Club sponsored its "Most Excellent Golf Classic" Nov. 18 at Los Verdes Golf Course.

The City Employees Club once again sponsored the Closest to the Pin contest at Hole 5. The Club also provided snacks on the green.

This year, the Club's very own Member Service Manager, Angel Gomez, was invited to participate. Though he was not a winner on the green, he had a great time with his team and looks forward to next year.

### Individual winners were:

#### Closest to the Pin:

- Hole 3 (\$50): Mike Rubino
- Hole 5 (\$100 Golfsmith gift check): Brett McDaniel
- Hole 12 (\$50): Jim Holdaway
- Hole 17 (\$50): Ron Reddick

- Longest drive, male (\$25): Andy Wooster (hole 7)
- Longest drive, woman (\$25): Mimi Gutierrez (hole 7)
- Low gross (\$25): Mike Rubino (78)



From left: Andy Wooster; Brian Correa; Prashant Konareddy, Club Member; and Boyd Bostre, Club Member.

### Team Competition (\$260):

- First place: Sandbaggers (205)  
Mike Rubino, Jim Sta Ana, Ron Reddick, Ron Kennedy, Al Gurrero, Brain Chuc, Gary Cardamone, Boyd Bostre, Thomas Asuncion, Brian Correa, Al Takii, Kyle Susswain and Todd Rother.
- Second place: Hackers (197)
- Third place: Duffers (197)
- Fourth place: Slickers (187)

Raffle Winners: Bill Fletcher (Dyna shirt and travel mug) and Mimi Gutierrez (Dyna shirt and travel mug).

The next golf classic is set for Feb. 17, also at Los Verdes Golf Course.

The City Employees Club thanks Martin Lovato for his assistance.



From left: David McKenna, Club Member; Don Rice, Club Member; Richard Mahl and Jim Sta Ana



Retirees, from left: Ron Kennedy, Bruce McPheeters, Dave Sutton, and Rich Davidson.



From left: Mark Rose, Club Member; Mike Gasper; Dave Walsh; and Gary Cardamone.



From left: Dolores Matich, retiree; Mimi Gutierrez, Club Member; Emil Zordilla, Club Member; and Todd Rother.

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# Michelle on the Move

BY Michelle Moreno, City Events Guru

# EVENTS 411

what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ?

## New Year Brings Cars, Year of Dog

### Happy New Year, folks!

Welcome back to Events 411. I hope you had a wonderful holiday season! Did you get everything you wanted from Santa? Unfortunately, the Red Rider BB gun that I asked for wasn't under my Christmas tree. I guess Santa thought, "I'd poke my eye out." If you're laughing a little, that means you got the joke – good for you! If you didn't, rent *A Christmas Story*, and you'll know what I'm talking about.

Speaking of renting movies, if you're a fan of films, make sure you participate in "Who's Got the Popcorn" in every issue of *Alive!*, brought to you by Events Guru (me) and Ticket Guy.

Well, that's enough solicitation from me, and now it's time to talk about events to begin the New Year. Downtown on Ice will still be around for a few more weeks. If you have yet to take advantage of this rare opportunity to ice-skate in Downtown Los Angeles, now is the time to do so. However, if cars are your thing, then there is some great news for you. The L.A. Auto Show is making its way back into town, so if you're a car aficionado or know one, then make sure you purchase your tickets soon.

Lastly, are you the type of person who has "a deep sense of loyalty, are honest and inspire other people's confidence because you know how to keep secrets, but you are somewhat self-ish, terribly stubborn and eccentric? Do you care little for wealth, yet somehow always seem to have money? Can you be cold emotionally and sometimes distant at parties? Are you good leader?

Does this describe you? And why I am asking these questions? If you answered yes to any of these questions (especially the last one), the reason is that 2006 is the "Year of the Dog" in Chinese culture. If you were born in 1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982 or 1994, then this is your year, so go out and celebrate. Oh and make you work on that stubbornness and cold distant behavior. \*wink\*

Well, that's it from me. I thank you for taking the time to read Events 411 and I wish you a wonderful 2006!

If you know of any events occurring in Los Angeles or have any opinions or suggestions on the events listed, please send them to: michelleonthemove@cityemployeesclub.com

For more information about events around Los Angeles, visit these websites:

- www.culturela.org
- www.expericela.com
- www.laparks.org
- www.losangelesalmanac.com
- www.laweekly.com
- www.olvera-street.com
- http://beaches.co.la.ca.us

### Know of any great City events? Let me know!

I'll be happy to include your event in my monthly column. (Listings are limited to City events, with an emphasis (although not exclusively) on families. Make sure to include dates, times, locations, costs (if any) and contact information. Email me at: MichelleOnTheMove@cityemployeesclub.com or call me at (800) 464-0452.

## January

\*Events subject to change. Please call to confirm date and time information.  
\*Please note some events run through February



### 2006 Greater LA Auto Show

For all you car enthusiasts, come and experience one of the best auto shows in the country.

Date(s): Jan. 6 - 15  
Time: Fri. 11 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.  
Sat. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Sun. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Mon. thru Thurs. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Site: Los Angeles Convention Center  
1201 South Figueroa St., Los Angeles  
Cost: \$10/adults, free for children 12 and under,  
\$7/seniors(65+); \$7 (Mon. - Fri.)  
More info: (310) 444-1850 or  
www.laautoshow.com

### The Importance of Being Ernest at the Ahmanson Theatre

"Jack loves Gwendolen. Algernon loves Cecily. The women, too, are in love, with men they believe to be called Ernest - 'that name that inspires absolute confidence.' While Gwendolen's Ernest seems perfectly honorable, Cecily's is ostensibly wicked. Yet both have bent the truth and neither is quite who he says he is. The four lovers find themselves together in the country, snared in romantic entanglements only the sharp wit of Oscar Wilde could devise and resolve." (Website) Some say it's one of the best comedies written in English; it's a true classic.

Date: Through March 5  
Time: 8 p.m. (Tues.-Fri.), 2 and 8 p.m. (Saturdays)  
2 and 7:30 p.m. (Sundays)  
Site: Ahmanson Theatre, 135 N. Grand Ave.,  
Downtown L.A.  
Cost: \$25-\$75  
Club Discount Code: 6697  
More info: (213) 972-2772 or  
www.taperahmanson.com

### Permanent Collection at the Kirk Douglas Theatre

"A revered art collection becomes the focus of a battle over race, history and culture. This play examines related issues of visibility and empathy. Who has the right to decide which works of art hang on a wall? What is the amount of space - literal and metaphorical - the white world gives to African-Americans? What is the cost of failing to step outside ourselves, to see the world through another's eyes?" (Website)

Date: Through Feb. 12  
Time: 8 p.m. (Fri), 2 and 8 p.m. (Sat. and Sun.) Call for more times.  
Site: Kirk Douglas Theatre, 9820 Washington Blvd. at Duquesne, Culver City  
Cost: \$20-\$30  
Club Discount Code: 6697  
More info: (213) 628-2772 or  
www.taperahmanson.com

### Fridays Off the 405 - The Getty Center

"A new, once-a-month, after-work event mixing art and entertainment where you can socialize, tour the galleries, and revel in the end of the workweek in a casual, spontaneous atmosphere. All Fridays Off the 405 feature live music and a cash bar."

Date(s): Call or visit Website  
Time: Vary  
Site: 1200 Getty Center Dr., Los Angeles  
Cost: Free  
More info: (310) 440-7300 or  
www.getty.edu

### Lewis & Clark Reach the Euphrates at the Mark Taper Forum

"Manifest Destiny takes imaginative and comic turns when Lewis and Clark's expedition to find a water route to the Pacific Ocean erupts into a fantastical journey with time- and space-bending twists and turns." (Website)

Date: Through Jan. 22  
Time: 8 p.m. (Tues.-Fri.), 2:30 and 8 p.m. (Sat.)  
2:30 and 8 p.m. (Sun.)  
Site: 135 N. Grand Ave. Downtown L.A.  
Cost: \$30 - \$55  
Club Discount Code: 6697  
More info: (213) 628-2772 or  
www.taperahmanson.com

### Downtown on Ice at Pershing Square

A winter wonderland in Los Angeles! Bring family and friends for a day of ice-skating and live music.

Date(s): Through Jan. 16  
Time: Skating:  
Mon.-Thurs.: Noon - 9 p.m.  
Fri. - Sun.: 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Concerts:  
Tues./Thurs.: Noon - 2 p.m.  
Sun.: 2 - 4 p.m.  
Fri.: 8 - 10 p.m.  
Site: 532 South Olive St., Downtown L.A.  
Cost: \$6/hour, \$2/skate rental  
More info: (213) 847-4970 or  
www.laparks.org/pershingsquare/doi.htm  
Rec and Parks

### Australia Week 2006 - Wolf Blass Aussie Festival with Steve Irwin

"The Crocodile Hunter himself, Steve Irwin, will open the Wolf Blass Aussie Festival with a unique presentation followed by Australian entertainment including the award winning Marysville High School Band, food and beverage concessions, travel and tourism booths and family fun. Then, at 1:30 pm, the whistle will blow and the Sydney Swans will play the Kangaroos in an AFL sanctioned football match on the Intramural field."

Date(s): Jan. 15  
Time: 11 a.m.  
Site: UCLA Campus, Pauley Pavilion, Westwood  
Cost: \$15/adult, \$10/kids (3-15), free/ kids under 3,  
-\$40/family of four  
More info: (310) 229-4864 or  
www.australia-week.com



### Martin Luther King Jr. Parade in Los Angeles

Come and celebrate the life of the great Martin Luther King with a street parade full of floats, activities, celebrities and more.

Date(s): Jan. 16  
Time: 10 a.m.  
Site: Begins: Martin Luther King Boulevard at Western Avenue, Los Angeles  
Cost: Free  
More info: (310) 537-4240

### Martin Luther King Jr. Parade in Long Beach

Come and celebrate the life of the great Martin Luther King with a street parade full of floats, activities, celebrities and more.

Date(s): Jan. 14  
Time: 10 a.m.  
Site: Martin Luther King Boulevard, from 7th Street to Rhea, Long Beach  
Cost: Free  
More info: (562) 570-6816

### Lunar New Year Celebration at the L.A. Zoo - Year of the Dog

"Whether you enjoy watching colorful dance performances or prefer getting in on the action at a martial arts demonstration, sampling foods from across Asia or learning new fun craft ideas, there's something to howl about at the Los Angeles Zoo's Lunar New Year Celebration. All activities are free to GLAZA members and with paid Zoo admission." (Website)

Date(s): Jan. 21 - 22  
Time: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Cost: \$7/adults, \$4/kids (4-12) (Club prices)  
Site: Los Angeles Zoo  
5333 Zoo Dr., Los Angeles  
(323) 644-4200 or  
www.lazoo.org  
City Sponsor: Los Angeles Zoo

### Whale Fiesta at Cabrillo Beach

Kick off the whale-watching season with a fun-filled day of activities, exhibits, contests and more.

Date(s): Jan. 22  
Time: 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Site: Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 3720 Stephen M White Dr., San Pedro  
Cost: Free  
More info: (310) 548-7562 or  
www.cabrilloaq.org/spevents.html

## February:

### San Gabriel Valley Lunar New Year Parade

Come and celebrate the Year of the Dog with a parade, live entertainment, and more.

Date(s): Feb. 4  
Time: Parade: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Street Festival: 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.  
Site: On Valley Boulevard between Garfield and Almansor, Alhambra  
Cost: Free  
More info: (626) 284-1234 or  
www.lunarnewyearparade.com

### Queen Mary Scottish Festival and Games

"Come help us celebrate the Scottish Heritage of the Queen Mary. This unique ship exemplifies the fine craftsmanship of Scotland." (Website). Enjoy the celebration with Scottish culture with dances, music and much more!

Date(s): Feb. 18 and 19  
Time: Begins at 8 a.m.  
Site: Queen Mary, 1126 Queens Highway, Long Beach  
Cost: Call for visit Website for pricing information  
More info: (562) 499-1650 or  
www.queenmary.com, click on Special Events.

### 107th Annual Chinese New Year Festival and Parade in Chinatown

Another celebration for Year of the Dog filled with a weekend full of fun: a parade, car show, live entertainment and more.

Date(s): Feb. 4-5  
Time: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Parade: 2 - 4 p.m. (Feb. 4)  
Car show: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Feb. 5)  
Site: Chinatown, Los Angeles  
Cost: Free  
More info: (213) 617-0396 or  
www.lagoldendragonparade.com  
www.chinatownla.com



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This comprehensive study has an introduction by Dr. Doyce B. Nunis Jr., Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus, USC, and past editor of the Southern California Quarterly, published by the Historical Society of Southern California. An epilogue has been provided by Dr. Raphael Sonenshein, Professor of Political Science, Cal State Fullerton and Executive Director of the City of Los Angeles Appointed Charter Reform Commission. Senior Editor is historian Dr. Tom Sitton and Project Director is Hynda L. Rudd.

To defray publication and distribution costs, the Historical Society is offering advance copies for \$50, one half the publication price, to the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

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Send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!* 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071



## In Memoriam

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

NAME	DEPT.	#YEARS	NAME	DEPT.	#YEARS
<b>Active</b>					
Paul DeArmon	DWP	20	Charles Maine	DWP	29
Thomas Essington	Pub. Works	39	Felipe Martinez	DWP	6
Hoe Ha	DWP	18	Lois Mettler	Rec & Parks	17
Cheryl Harper	LAPD	22	R.P. Montgomery	DWP	32
Brenda Monette	Gen. Services	25	Steven Morgan	CAO	25
Robert Pierce	Gen. Services	22	Milton Norborg	DWP	30
Daniel Wiedland	DWP	13	Lillian Packard	Library	21
Josef Wohlund	DWP	24	Richard Park	DWP	29
<b>Retired</b>					
Saul Aguirre	DWP	30	Kenneth Post	Bldg. & Safety	14
Calixto Amparan	DWP	16	Rebecca Pryor	Admin. Div.	30
Carl Anderson	LAPD	10	Daniel Rense	DWP	10
Phillip Anderson	Transport.	11	Leroy Roberts	DWP	38
Milton Beggs	Muni. Audit.	33	Harriett Ruiz	DWP	23
Lawrence Brenner	Rec & Parks	34	Raymond Rush	Harbor	13
Norman Brohaugh	Pub. Works	21	Vernon Rushing	Pub. Works	13
Floyd Buchanan	DWP	30	Isao Sakurai	DWP	26
David Cargan	DWP	20	Casildo Salazar	DWP	30
William Carter Jr.	DWP	30	Herbert Sample	Gen. Services	21
Peter Ceccotti	Pub. Works	14	Howard Shuken	Pub. Works	17
Harrison Chastang	DWP	32	Carl Simpson	Airports	30
Conrad Claudio	LAPD	13	Arthur Skerry Jr.	DWP	19
John Dickenson	DWP	19	Glenn Smith	DWP	34
Ferdinand Dominguez	DWP	20	Marija Stepanovich	Pub. Works	15
Cornelius Dunne	DWP	26	Leslie Stevens	DWP	25
Donald Eisner	DWP	10	Tadao Tanabe	Rec & Parks	34
Richard Feddersen	Bldg. & Safety	35	Bryant Torregano	Harbor	18
Robert Guis	Airports	12	Vivian Tupper	Data Serv. Bureau	36
Craig Hall	Transport.	38	Frank Valenzuela	DWP	31
Walter Hinman	DWP	41	Harold West	DWP	22
David Jackson	Pub. Works	32	Lonzoe Williams	Public Works	37
Wylma Jacob	DWP	32	Alfred Wohl	Animal Reg.	20
Vernon Jones	N/D	29	Rolland Woodruff	ITA	15
			Victor Zankich	Harbor	18



## Retirements

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	#YEARS
David Adkin	Photographer	LAPD	17
Roy Barslund	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Gregory Beckman	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Candace Brown	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Earl Brown	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Gary Brown	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
William Bruce	Dir. of Airports Admin.	Airports	36
Ann Butler	Clerk Typist	Public Works	33
Enrique Camarena	Crossing Guard	Transportation	8
Melva Clark	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Terence Colerus	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Larry Contri	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Freddy Cortez	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Betty Davidson	Deputy City Attorney	City Attorney	25
Renato De Aquino	Airport Guide	Airports	6
Mary Deleon	Crossing Guard	Transportation	9
Glenn Dixon	Ref. Collection Truck Operator	Public Works	34
Robert Edwards	Housing Inspector	Housing	18
Richard Escamilla	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Gloria Garcia	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Helen Ginsburg	Chief Management Analyst	City Clerk	28
Cruz Gomez	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
James Gonzalez	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Michael Graskowiak	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Pablo Griffith	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
James Haines	Build. Repairer Supervisor	LAPD	16
Robert Hardy	Maintenance Laborer	Public Works	8
Vincent Hernandez	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
John Hilger	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Thelma Holmes	Hearing Reporter	LAPD	36
Marjory Hopper	Librarian	Library	47
Geraldo Jimenez	City Attorney	City Attorney	17
Gayle Johnson	Legislative Analyst	City Council	25
Flemming Juliussen	Heavy Duty Equip. Operator	Gen. Services	32
Brian Kilbane	Sr. Build. Operating Engr.	Airports	33
Sun Kim	Sr. Legal Clerk	City Attorney	30
Daniel King	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Joel Klein	Maintenance Laborer	Airports	16
David Lefler	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Michael Lichlyter	Sr. Street Use Inspector	Public Works	36



## Promotions



**Eddie Millage**, Club Member, promoted to Communications Electrician, Communication Services Division, ITA. Previously, he was Delivery Driver II. He has 17 years of City service.



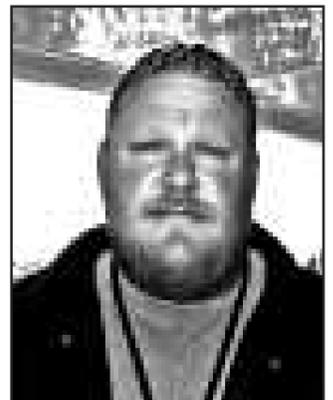
**Maurice Jacobs** promoted to Construction Equipment Service Worker, Gen. Services. Previously, he was Garage Attendant. He has 7 years of City service.



**Abe Rashid** was promoted to Principal Accountant, Transportation, from Sr. Accountant. He has 12 years of City service.



**Mike Newell** promoted to Electrician, Hyperion Plant. Previously, he was Mechanical Helper. He has 2 years of City service.



**Shawn Olson** promoted to Maintenance and Construction Helper, Street Services, Public Works. Previously, he was a Laborer. He has 4.5 years of City Services.

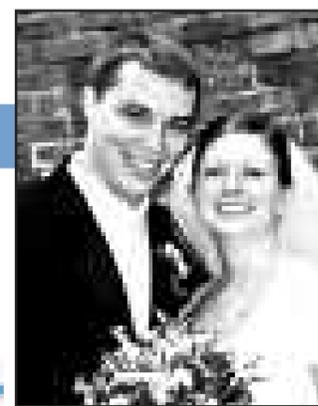
**James Real** was promoted to Sr. Security Officer, Harbor.

## Retirements, CONTINUED

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	#YEARS
Annette Lindeman	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
LA Littlejohn	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Jonathan Los	City Planning Assoc.	Planning	20
Allen Lupoe	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Betty Jo Main	Sr. Management Analyst	Harbor	25
Deborah Malin	Sr. Police Serv. Rep.	LAPD	25
Mike Marquez	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Edward McKinley	Cook	Rec and Parks	19
Michael Medina	Airport Police Officer	Airports	35
Lucki Melikian	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Michael Mirabel	Wastewater Treatment Ofcr.	Public Works	10
Patricia Mitchell	Clerk Typist	LAPD	33
Soliman Motagally	Storekeeper	Gen. Services	21
Ruby Novida	Material Test Tech.	Gen. Services	19
Patrick O'Connor	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Wilbur Olsen	Construction Inspector	Airports	17
Mary Pagarigan	Pr. Clerk Police	LAPD	34
Aniceta Perez	Fiscal Systems Spec.	Housing	18
Elaine Pfefferman	Council Aide	Council	16
Charles Raffetto	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Alvin Rambo	Sr. Rec. Dir.	Rec and Parks	36
Richard Reynolds	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Johnny Robinson	Ref. Collection Truck Op.	Public Works	36
Dale Rogers	Building Sup.	Convention Ctr.	31
Linda Rose	Sr. Clerk Typist	Public Works	10
Herbert Schweiger	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Ronald Seps	Industrial Waste Inspector	Public Works	30
Lois Shotlow	Librarian	Library	26
Russell Simms	Electrician Supervisor	Convention Ctr.	20
Donald Soohoo	Accountant	Rec and Parks	8
Joe Stokes	Sr. Equip. Mechanic	LAPD	30

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	#YEARS
Kathleen Strelloff	Sr. Librarian	Library	19
Shu Jen Su	Tax Auditor	Finance	26
Gary Taylor	Refuse Collection Truck Op.	Public Works	20
Aubrey Tindle	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Julio Toledo	Mech. Repairer	Public Works	30
Jerry Trusty	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Susan Tsubaki	Exec. Secretary	Personnel	30
Ronald Tucker	Machinist	Gen. Services	23
John Vail	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
Erlinda Velasco	Not Disclosed	DWP	Not Disclosed
James Wilson	Lot Cleaning Supv.	Public Works	30
Janice Wood	Management Analyst	LAFD	35
Erich Ziebarth	Engr. of Surveys	Public Works	44

**Alive!** and your City Employees Club wishes to thank each and every one of the following, who have spent many years making Los Angeles the great city it is. Congratulations, and enjoy your well-deserved rewards!



**Theodore and Shirley Wilson** were married Dec. 3 and honeymooned in Europe. "We wish a Happy New Year to everyone." Theodore works for the DWP.

## New Members

# Welcome New Members!

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

**Airports**

- Adriana Belmares
- Annette Bowden
- Deborah Brandon
- Dana Bryant
- Nabor Camacho
- Irene Cardiel
- Alfred Carrillo
- Juan Castaneda
- Veronica Ceballos
- Rogelio Cuevas
- Daniel Gardea
- Gary Gardner
- Jonel Goodman
- Corey Green
- Lavell Hunter
- Demitri Jordan
- Timothy Justice
- Ricardo Larios
- Trinell Lawson
- Ramelle Levy
- Davon Lowery
- Demeturius Matthews
- Kenneth Mcuey
- Maria Noguez
- Sean Norwood
- Leticia Ortiz
- RaeAnn Rowley
- Rosalinda Rufino
- Mohammadsami Shaikh
- Claudine Shaw-Gomez
- Jabari Spencer
- Rufo Tena
- Joseph Tichman
- Marco Trujillo
- Juan Villalobos
- Dante Williams

**Animal Services**

- Debora Betancourt
- Heidi Huebner
- Darline Mallet
- Donald Paul
- Shatana Rose

**Aging**

- Victor Pina

**Building and Safety**

- David Lopez
- Marleen Batson
- Carmen Hayes
- Daniel Bates

**City Attorney's Office**

- Molly Roff-Sheridan

**Community Development**

- Ermelinda Abeleda
- Janice Whitaker
- Maria Lopez
- Ozzie Lopez

**City Council**

- Len Nguyen

**Fire Department**

- John Williams

**Harbor**

- Tracienne Allmon
- Tam Bui
- Alejandro Carbajal
- Linda Clifford
- Jack Dahlstrom
- Renee Decker
- Adrienne Fedrick
- Vanessa Guillen

- Patrice Martin
- Manuel Ramirez
- Kelsey Wolleat

**General Services**

- M. Marquez
- Lawrence West
- Floyd Casey
- Larry Wissmann
- Maricela Munoz
- Noel Cabrera
- Pleasant Williams
- Maria Cecilia Ramos
- Michael Perez
- John Polson
- Jay Alexander
- Alan Peshek
- Tanisha Smith
- Richardo Fuentes

**Library**

- Ogechi Anum
- Marc Pasquinelli
- Maria Villareal

**Housing**

- Orestes Valenzuela
- Susan Garcia
- Berenice Orozco
- Jose Romero
- Elizabeth Guadalupe
- Manuel Juatco
- Aydin Akbarut
- Karen Baggio
- Michael Gregerson
- Germain Mendoza Jr.
- Claudia Monterrosa
- Lyzel Mutuc
- Michelle Wilson

**Convention Center**

- Kenneth Bailey

**Police Department**

- Maureen Geller
- Damon Hogan
- Gina Meza
- Sheldon Nicholson
- Steven Ramos
- Money Scott
- Lance Smith
- Raymond Terrones
- Doris Adler
- Carla Crayton
- Valerie Earl
- Gary Kotas
- Stacey Tennyson
- Charlotte Williams

**Public Works**

- Engineering
- Adil Samed

**Sanitation**

- Robert Butler II
- Lynetta R. Johnson
- Diane Jones
- Carlos Arroyo
- Scott Hilton
- Clayton Hoppes
- Robert Horvath
- Regidia Mayrena
- Lori Logan
- Ernesto Garcia
- Earl Barnes
- Lantz Campbell
- Edwin Smith

**Street Services**

- Andrea Wilson

**Rec and Parks**

- Randi Abrams-Gonzalez
- Joseph Bieniasz
- Jacyn Clayton
- Yvette Duffey
- Edward Edwards
- Lashawn Gentry
- Sherri Jacobson
- James Jordan
- Jimmy Kim
- Jason Liss
- Elisa White
- Virginia Ayala
- Gerardo Cortez
- Luis Hernandez
- Sabas Vargas
- June Webb

**Transportation**

- George Concho
- Roger Guadalupe
- Chris Mestas
- Eric Strawn
- Mary Vasquez
- Cynthia Bennett
- Minnie Byrd
- Helen Campos
- Ria Eis
- Maria Hernandez
- JoAnn Whiteside

**Treasury**

- Maria Kay

**Retirees**

- William Jones
- Matthew Klein
- Floe Morales
- Bernadette Pelletier

- Elna Pierce
- Patsie Angelo
- Darlynn Carey
- Joseph Garner
- Marzette Henry
- Stephen Hutchinson
- Marianne Miglin
- Rhodora Navarro
- Caroline Pinon
- Julia Reveles
- Robert Rivera
- Edwin Shum Jr.
- William Smith
- William Tilley
- Mei Jung Yee

**DWP**

- Sirlord Morse
- Rene Astengo
- H.B. Clark
- Sharon Hayes
- Marilyn Stevenson
- Reginald McCall
- Darrell Ballard
- Velma Moore
- Glenn Morris
- Tiodoso Rivas
- Tracy Phan
- Walter Frances
- Benjamin Quan
- Diana Regan
- Erlina Partosa
- Russell Tinoyan
- Alicia Brown
- Harry Trodick
- Harriet Voloso
- Reuben Wilson



First-place winners DOT South.



HWD High Rollers.



The Outsiders.



Hollywood Socials.

# Bowling for Fun

## ■ Transportation's annual bowling tournament comes back to life.

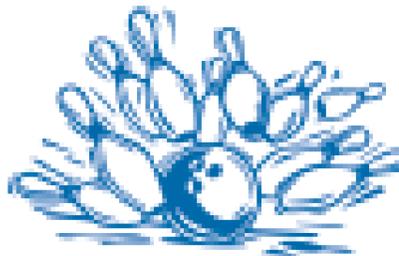
Story and photos by Tanisha Boyd, Transportation Hollywood Social Club Secretary

TRANSPORTATION — On Oct. 30, the Hollywood Social Club (Robin Smith-Gregory, La Tisha Vargas, Gaynell Mc Pherson and Tanisha Boyd) and Vernon Steele resurrected Transportation's annual bowling tournament. Vernon Steele (the man behind the scenes) worked with Del Rio Bowling Lanes in Downey, allowing us to get together for this event. This year there were eight teams representing the different enforcement areas: Hollywood, South, West and HPV.

Prior to the tournament, DOT South claimed the trophy, but DOT West took it home. The first place team consisted of Della Lyde, Marsha and Jesse Perkins.

The evening's ranking:

- First: DOT West
- DOT West
- DOT Hollywood
- SO HPV
- DOT Hollywood
- DOT Hollywood
- DOT South
- DOT South



Hollywood Social Club challenges all divisions and special operations to show their skill and earn bragging rights. This challenge isn't only for the officers, but also sergeants, lieutenants and captains.

Stay tuned for further details regarding the next bowling tournament. Blow the dust off those bowling ball and shoes at the next bowling tournament.

### October 2005 Participants

La Tisha Vargas, Dennis Vargas, Robin Smith-Gregory, Greg Goods, Aaron Gray, Jaron Lee, Pam Dorch-Lee, Gwen Alexander, Al Coleman, Valerie Tanisha Boyd, Ferdinand Smith, Patrick Hilton, David Oday, Nina Craig, Tamekia Watt, Dwight Brown, Jerry Dodd, Marsha, John Wheeler, Cheryl Henry, Ed Johnson, Vernon Steele, Ellen, Marvin Bailey, Lynn Gregoire, Della Lyde and Donna Jackson.

The Hollywood Social Club would like to send a special thanks to Vernon Steele for his hard work in bringing everyone together and assisting in organizing the tournament. Without him this wouldn't happen.



DOT South.



DOT South 2.



DOT West.



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Source: Disability Research from 1994-2001, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bureau of Economic Analysis, August 2001

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The District of the Year Award went to Civic Center District. David Lincoln, Chief Custodian Supervisor II, receives trophy along with supervisors.



From left: Pedro Cervantes, Custodian; and Baltazar Menjivar, Custodian, El Pueblo, Club Member.



From left: Irma Sigala, Vocational Worker, North District; Laura Hinton, Custodian, North District; and Tomasina Tucker, Custodian, LAPD District.



Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa expressed his sincere thanks to the custodians.



Juan Flores, Custodian, LAPD District, winner of portable DVD player donated by City Employees Club.



From left: René Anderson, SEIU Local 347 Representative, Club Member; Ceola Beard, Custodian of the Year, South District, Club Member; and Bob Schoonover, President, SEIU Local 347, Club Member.



From left: Florence Harris, Custodian, Civic Center; Debra Hale, Vocational Worker; and Renauta Thomas, Emergency Sr. Supervisor, Civic Center.



Custodian Supervisors of the Year.

# Thanks, Custodians!



From left: Edith Arnold, Custodian, and Sandra Hawkins, Sr. Custodian



From left: Carnell Baker, North District Supervisor, Club Member; and Nicole Ward, Custodian, Civic Center, Club Member.

## ■ General Services says thanks to custodians.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor  
Photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

**GENERAL SERVICES** — For the eighth consecutive year, General Services planned a special day to say thanks to the City custodians.

The appreciation day took place Nov. 8 near City Hall.

Master of Ceremonies was Melody McCormick, Director. The welcome remarks were delivered by Alvin Blain, General Manager.

There were special presentations for Supervisor of the Year, Custodians of the Year, Sr. Custodian of the Year, District of the Year, Service Pins and Certificates.

Special guests included Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, City Controller Laura Chick, Councilman Eric Garcetti and Councilman Tom LaBonge.

"You put in a good day, and you want to be treated with respect," the Mayor said in his address. "So I wanted to come by and say thank you for the work that you do. There's not anything I'm going to be able to do in the next four years that I can do without you. I'm committed to making sure that you continue to feel recognized and appreciated. This is an important day. This is

a day for us to say thank you for having pride in your work, for trying to make a difference. That's what this is all about."

"This City Hall was built ... because people had a great vision of this City," Councilman LaBonge said. "This City Hall could be the people's grand City hall, and you make it that, wherever you work in the system. I appreciate it. Thank you.

"Take care of yourselves. Make sure you don't hurt your backs at all. Walk in the morning, do a little stretch," LaBonge advised.

### Called out for special attention were:

#### Custodian of the Year:

- Filadelfo Calderon, Civic Center District
- Stanley Jones, North District
- Marvin Bridges, Central District
- Ruben Estrada, LAPD District
- Ceola Beard, South District

#### Senior Custodian of the Year:

- Mark Willey, Civic Center
- Terrence Latson, LAPD
- Rosevelt Lewis, North District
- Arthur Johnson, South District

#### Custodian Supervisor of the Year:

- Coleman Stevens, LAPD
- Carnell Baker, North District
- Victoria Hobbs, South District

#### The following received service pins:

- Venancio Diche, 15 years of service, North District
- Hector Gomez and Candace Hunter, 10 years of service, North District
- Othello Allen, 20 years of service; Eddie Cromwell, 15 years; Danny Mosqueda, 15 years; Jose Alvarez, 10 years; Luis Lugo, 10 years; and Gerardo Villalobos, 10 years all from Civic Center
- Stanley Garner, 25 years; Earnestine Burley, 20 years; Wing Lai, 10 years; and Anthony Uribe, 10 years, all from LAPD District
- Melvin Brutus, 25 years and Juan Gonzalez, 15 years; all from South District.

#### District of the Year:

- Civic Center District

The Club thanks Loretta Quinon and Kim Daniels for their assistance.



From left: Cedric Hardy, Custodian; Elias Shallimi, Custodian; and Iris Matheey, Custodian.



Marvin Bridges, Custodian of the Year, Civic Center District, proudly displays his award.



Alvin Blain, General Manager, Club Member, delivers his welcome remarks to the attendees.



From left: Alponso Word, North District Supervisor, Club Member; Earline Spry, Central District Supervisor, Club Member; Huberto Docazal, Central District Custodian Supervisor, Club Member; Bertha Baker, Central Library Head Custodian; and Carnell Baker, Supervisor, North District, Club Member.



From left: Francisco Zepeda, Custodian; Juan Espinoza, Custodian; Jose Diaz, Custodian; and Jorge Zepeda, Custodian.



From left: Maritza Aguirre, LAPD District; Alva Salanec, LAPD District; and Josephine Raya, Custodian, LAPD District.



From left: Jeanette Smith, MA, North District; Kim Daniels, Chief Custodian Supervisor, Club Member; and Jerrilyn Mitchell, Chief Custodian Supervisor.



Thomas Dugas proudly holds his certificate and pin commemorating his 30 years of service.



From left: Richard Jordan, Custodian, LAPD District; Kenyatta Harmon, Custodian, LAPD District; and Jerry Coleman, Custodian, LAPD District.



Filadelfo Calderon, Custodian of the Year, Civic Center, Club Member.



Tony Royster, Assistant General Manager, Club Member, introduces the elected officials.



Pablo Colmenares, Custodian, South District, won the X-Box donated by the City Employees Club.



Ernesto Raif, Custodian, North District, won the X-Box donated by the City Employees Club.



From left: Camila Hill, Sr. Custodian, Club Member; Kim Daniels, Chief Custodian, Club Member; and Jacqueline Bell, Custodian.



Alvin Blain, General Manager, Club Member; Bob Schoonover, President, SEIU Local 347, Club Member, pose with the Sr. Custodians of the Year.



From left: John Hawkins, CEO, City Employees Club, with Juan Gomez, Custodian, South District.



From left: Alex Navarro, Custodian, North District; and Joel Morelos, Custodian, North District.



Filadelfo Calderon, Custodian of the Year, Civic Center, Club Member.



From left: Councilman Eric Garcetti, City Controller Laura Chick and Councilman Tom LaBonge, Club Member.



From left: Peter Lee, LAPD; Sgt. Mark Chong; Kile Nam, LAPD; and David Lo, LAPD.



Representing American Airlines were, from left: Lou Zeina, James Seymour, Bill Barns and Louie Loquet.



From left: Det. Tim Gipson; Lance Nielsen; Det. Randy Fredrickson; and Det. Kirby Carranza.

# Parker Golf Challenge

## Police foundation benefit brings out celebs.

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

**POLICE DEPT.** — The 15th annual William H. Parker Los Angeles Police Foundation Golf Challenge took place Nov. 7 at the Braemar Country Club in Tarzana.

The golf tournament benefited the William H. Parker Los Angeles Police Foundation, which advances the training and professionalism of its officers to better serve the residents of Los Angeles.

The William H. Parker Los Angeles Police Foundation was established in 1996 as a memorial to the late Chief William H. Parker. As a non-profit charity, the foundation's mission is to provide financial support to the dedicated men and women of the LAPD through training grants for specialized police courses and specialized equipment.

This is the second year that the Club has participated as a sponsor

for the event.

Master of Ceremonies was Norm Crosby. Actress Patricia Heaton served as Tournament Chair.

The Club thanks Sgt. Steven Williams, Foundation Staff, Club Member; Regina J. Menez; Kenneth P. Esteves, Foundation President; and Bill York, Event Producer, for their assistance.



From left: Capt. Kane, Foundation Treasurer; Capt. Egan; Deputy Chief Carter; and Capt. Syzmanski.



From left: Commander Terry Hara, Club Member; Al Zardenetta; Mitzi Grasso, LAPD; and Jerry Hallenger, LAPD.



From left: Commander Garner, Capt. Fierro and Herme Chua.



From left: Jack Arian, Foundation Board Director; Luther Lutz, Los Angeles Police Protective League Director; and Seymour Rosen, Press Relations Officer.



From left: Teri King; Victor Monro, SLO, LAPD; Sgt. Martin Fentress, LAPD; and Gay Peterson.



From left: Therman Calloway, Park Maintenance Supervisor, LAPD, Club Member; Anthony DeHaro, Maintenance, Club Member; Tim Herrera, Electrician; and Bonnie Gray, Frazee Paint.



From left: Kenneth P. Esteves, Foundation President; Regina Menez, Foundation Staff; Sgt. Steven Williams, Foundation Staff, Club Member; and Bill York, Event Producer.



From left: Bob Jones; Bill Jones; Tiffini Hughes, Police & Fire Financial; and Laura Reidder.



From left: Steve Hertz, Jared Hertz, Michael Jackson, Ric Agin and Bill Hertz Jr.



From left: Peter Dobson; Norm Crosby, Master of Ceremonies; Councilman Eric Garcetti; and Jimmy Fox.



From left: Chief William Bratton; Assistant Chief Jim McDonnell; Assistant Chief George Gascon; and Gerald Chaleff, Police Administrator.

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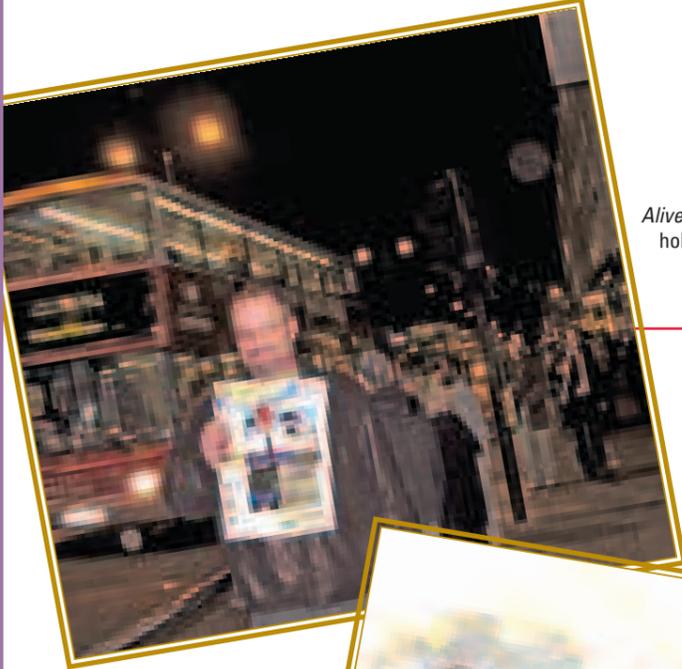
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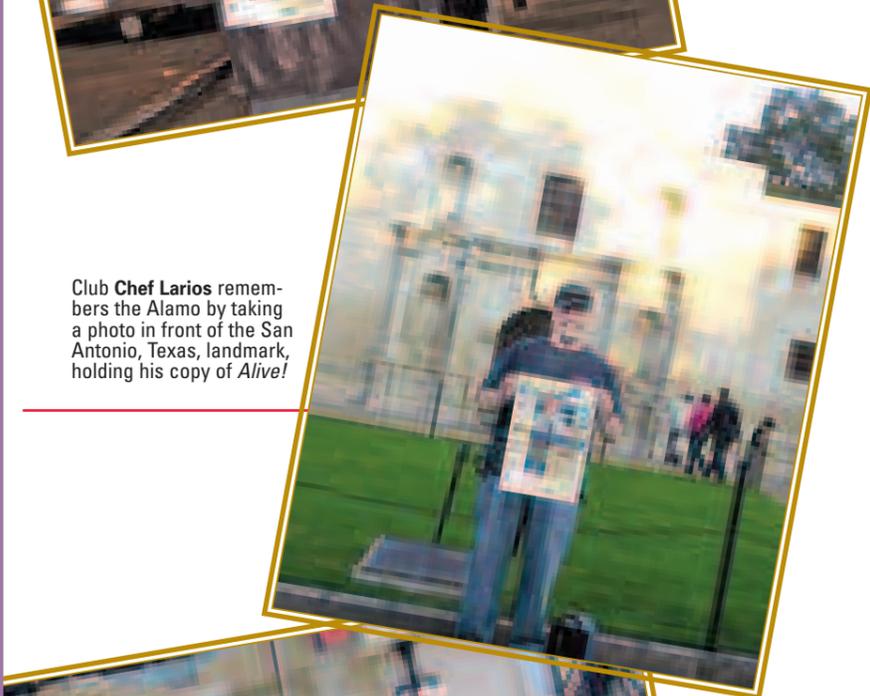
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# Alive! Around the World

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](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



*Alive!* editor John Burnes holds his copy of *Alive!* in front of the Notting Hill tube station, London.



Club Chef Larios remembers the Alamo by taking a photo in front of the San Antonio, Texas, landmark, holding his copy of *Alive!*



Josefa de Vela of Taxes and Financial Reports Section, DWP, with a copy of *Alive!* in front of "Wonderworks," an inverted building in the tourist belt of Orlando, Florida.

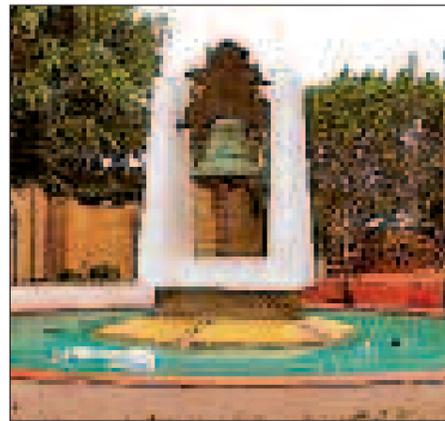
# Where in LA?

## WIN \$50 Target Gift Certificate

Get ready for another great contest.  
We wish you could all win!

For January, we're offering a great prize: a \$50 gift certificate for Shell Service Stations. All you have to do is send in a correct and substantial answer (in your own words) to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com), and you could win!

So:  
**What is this?  
Where is this?**



The Club member who gives us the most complete, detailed description of the object related to the City of Los Angeles wins the great prize!

- This month's deadline: Jan. 12.
- See complete list of rules.
- Thanks for playing, and good luck!

Send your response along with your Club card number by e-mail ([whereinla@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:whereinla@cityemployeesclub.com)), by fax (213-620-0398) or by surface mail (350 S. Figueroa, Suite 700, Los Angeles 90071).

This month's winner is:  
**Shirley Gatlin,**  
widow of James A. Gatlin, Building and Safety.

**Here's Shirley's winning response:**

This is one of the two projectiles located at the John S. Gibson Jr. Memorial Park on Harbor Boulevard, between 5th Street and 6th Street, in San Pedro.

From the Harbor (110) Freeway South, take the Harbor Boulevard exit, just as you approach 5th Street; be sure to glance to your left. There, you will see a massive naval gun barrel between two projectiles.

Viewed from the street, this projectile is depicted to give you the perception of being loaded to the 16-inch, 50-caliber gun barrel from the USS New Jersey (BB62). Said barrel has a length of 68 feet and a 118.5-ton weight. To the left (of the gun barrel) is the other projectile that gives you the impression that it just passed through the gun barrel.

The projectile in the picture has a plaque in the cement foot that states, "16-inch armor piercing projectile. Length 72 inches weight 2,700 pounds. 600 pounds of powder creates 17.5 tons of pressure per square inch in the powder chamber, forcing the projectile through the 68 ft. gun barrel toward its target traveling at 1,653 miles per hour, spinning at 4,000 rpm. Maximum range 22.8 miles, rate of fire: 2 rounds per minute."

These are part of the historical artifacts donated and/or loaned by the US Navy and patrons of the Los Angeles Maritime Museum, reflecting the history of the Port of Los Angeles and San Pedro.

In addition, as you walk through this plaza-like park, you will have time to reflect at the sights of the mainmast, rigging, anchors, and bow peak, which are part of the USS Los Angeles Naval Monument. You will perhaps say a silent prayer as you go through and read the American Merchant Marine Veterans Memorial with its Wall of Honor, marvel at the significance of the sculpture depicting 2 seamen climbing Jacob's ladder. Try to read the dedication for the Bloody Thursday Monument and think of the families who laid the flowers at the Fishing Industry Memorial. Of course, at the intersection of Harbor Boulevard and 6th Street, discover the maritime history of the L.A. Harbor at the Los Angeles Maritime Museum.

Runner-up: Ken Moody, ITA

**Here are the rules:**

- 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.)
- Responses can be delivered by mail, fax, e-mail or in person (phone responses will not be accepted). E-mail address: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)
- 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.

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# New Head of Animal Svs. Is From NYC

## Animal Services

Continued from Page 1



Guerdon Stuckey,  
former GM of Animal Services

where he served as the director for two years. He recently resigned from that position after setting in motion a turnaround effort to upgrade animal shelters, substantially increase pet adoptions and spay/neuter, according to the release. During his tenure, New York City reduced euthanasia by approximately 20 percent and increased pet adoptions by 30 percent, the release said.

Mayor Villaraigosa had promised during his mayoral campaign to make a change in departmental leadership, according to a November article in the Los Angeles Times. But, according to the Times, Villaraigosa had more recently supported Stuckey who, along with other personnel from Animal Services, had been the target of recent acts of vandalism and worse.

Members of the Animal Services staff sent a letter to the Mayor, voicing their strong disapproval of the move.

"To concede to the terrorists for the ousting of our General Manager, Guerdon Stuckey, has placed a pall over the Department and the City," the letter, dated Dec. 15, wrote in part. "Continued empowerment of these terrorists will only serve for them to step up their terrorist activities against Department employees.

"Mr. Mayor, to continue the trend of replacing the General Manager of Animal Services whenever it gets uncomfortable to support the Department will only serve to promote instability of the organization," the letter continued. "Everyone knows change is difficult and resisted. Four General Managers in five years is more than any organization should be asked to endure.

"The terrorists will never be satisfied," the letter continues. "They will never go away. It is time that you stand up to them; support your Department and fellow City employees."

The letter was signed by 149 employees from the Administrative Services, the North Central Center, the West LA Center, the South LA Annex, the East Valley Center, the Harbor Center, the West Valley Center and the South LA Center.

"Ed Boks is a proven leader in his field, and I am confident that he will bring strong leadership to the City's Animal Services Department," Mayor Villaraigosa said in a press release. "Ed is committed to my goals of making L.A. a more animal-friendly City, increasing adoption and spay/neuter, reducing euthanasia of abandoned and unwanted pets and forging strong public-private partnerships."

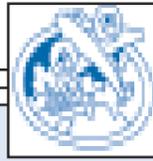
Prior to working in New York, Boks led the Maricopa County Animal Care and Control in and around Phoenix for five years. There he took a system that was killing 62 percent of the nearly 60,000 animals it took in annually and reduced the number to less than half. He also increased pet adoptions by 33 percent, according to the press release.

"Ed Boks brings unique experience in applying progressive animal care and control practices in the toughest arena possible – big city public shelter systems – and making demonstrable progress in the right direction," the Mayor said in his statement. "He has also shown an ability to work effectively with public employees and humane activists alike.

Boks will assume the post of Interim General Manager of Animal Services effective January 3. Until then, Regina Adams will serve as acting general manager of the department. Ms. Adams has extensive experience with the Department's operations, having previously served as Assistant General Manager. She is a senior manager within Rec and Parks and has served the City for 25 years.

**Wanna be heard?** What do you think about the Mayor's personnel decision? Write a letter to the editor: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

## OFFICIAL CLUB PARTNER



# Travel Talk



Tony Adler

by Tony Adler, President,  
Cruise and Resort, Inc.  
Club Travel Partner

## And the Winners Are...

### ■ Club travel partner selects its favorite travel experiences.

Every year, Club travel partner Cruise and Resort offers its World's Best Awards. The results are a combination of both client feedback and inspections by the Cruise and Resort team. Selection to the list does not always mean the property is the most expensive or the most exclusive. Sometimes it is property that has the best balance of luxury and amenities combined with the biggest bang for the buck. In those instances where the selection is expensive, consider it a reason to save, and then splurge.

It is hard to choose just a few outstanding companies when we work with so many, but we try to include the ones that consistently stand out as the cream of the crop. We are always pleased to receive your feedback, too. Anytime you book a trip at Cruise and Resort, please let your Club representative at our company know your thoughts. You have a very good chance of seeing those comments reflected in next year's awards.

Category	Winners	Comments
Best Luxury Cruise Line	Radisson Seven Seas	Passengers love the pampering and the free wine at dinner. There's no charge for the little things like soft drinks.
Best New Cruise Line	Oceania	Positioned between premium and luxury cruise lines. Tremendous value and incredible food!
Best Year-Round Cruises to Mexico	Carnival	Sparkling ships, convenient fun, great value. They've upgraded their food and now have a celebrity chef.
Best Hotel on Oahu	Halekulani	Understated luxury on the best part of Waikiki Beach. La Mer is Hawaii's only five-diamond restaurant.
Best Hotel on Maui	Grand Wailea Resort and Spa	A water park paradise. Absolutely the best for families. A tie with the Four Seasons for couples.
Best Hotel on Kauai	Grand Hyatt Resort and Spa	The way Hawaii should be! Large rooms, wonderful service and spectacular golf on premises.
Best Hotel on the Big Island	Four Seasons Hualalai	Luxurious, romantic, onsite golf, expensive and worth it! Hard to get a reservation during prime time.
Best Hotel in Las Vegas	Wynn Resort	It's the newest on the Strip. It has lived up to all the hype. Features large well-appointed rooms with amenities.
Best Hotel in San Francisco	Four Seasons San Francisco	Fabulous views and modern, spacious rooms filled with the latest electronics, and a close-to-everything location.
Best Hotel in Cabo San Lucas	Esperanza Resort	Choose from its 50 casita suites or multi-room residences. Casual elegance and sophistication.
Best Hotel in Los Angeles	Peninsula Beverly Hills	Great location with famous Peninsula service. The Beverly Hills Hotel and Bel Air Hotel rank high, too.
Best Hotel in Orange County	Montage Resort and Spa	Located right on the beach in Laguna. The studio restaurant is a hot ticket. Rabbits roam the grounds.
Best Hotel in New York	Four Seasons New York	A true oasis. Soundproofed rooms with extra comfortable beds and linens. Terrific location.
Best Hotel in London	The Goring	Personal service from the staff makes every guest feel at home. Excellent location. Old-world elegance.
Best Hotel in Rome	Westin Excelsior	Classic turn-of-the-century hotel on the Via Veneto is back and better than ever. Heavenly beds, too.
Best Hotel on the Amalfi Coast	Hotel Caruso	One of the most beautiful hotels in the world, located in Ravello, Italy. Romantic. Pure magnificence!
Best Hotel in Paris	Hotel Le Bristol	A long history of fine service. Lots of celebrities. Formal service. You may feel underdressed in jeans.
Best Hotel in Prague	Four Seasons	On the banks of the celebrated Vltava River. Always ranks highest in the city. No contest!
Best Hotel in Hong Kong	Peninsula	In a city with many of the finest hotels in the world, the Peninsula still wins in most categories.
Best Hotel for Skiing (U.S.A.)	Ritz-Carlton Bachelor Gulch	On Beaver Creek Mountain in Colorado. A spectacular ski-in ski-out resort. Great spa and terrific for families.
Best Hotel for Skiing (Canada)	Fairmont Chateau Whistler	Only a few hours from Vancouver. Charming village. Ski-in, ski-out. Stay on the Gold floor for best service.
Best Spa Hotel	Canyon Ranch Tucson	More than just a spa. It is a complete health resort. Gourmet cuisine that is good for you. True pampering.
Best Airline (domestic)	Southwest	No domestic airline is fun, but Southwest is close. They get you there quickly and for less money.
Best Airline (international)	Virgin Atlantic	Inflight massages and manicures. More entertainment choices. Sleeper seats in upper class. They do it well!
Best Rental Car Company	National	A surprising winner. They often have better rates than the largest companies with comparable service.

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ADULT COLORING CONTEST

**1<sup>st</sup>  
WINNER!**

**Adult Coloring Contest:  
A New Club Favorite!**

Alive's second coloring contest for adults proved a big hit, just like the first one. Bravo to everyone who participated!

And just like the first *Alive!* Adult Coloring Contest, we received responses from a wide variety of job classifications. It seems everyone, including adults, loves to color. So you can count on *Alive!* to give you the opportunity again in the near future.

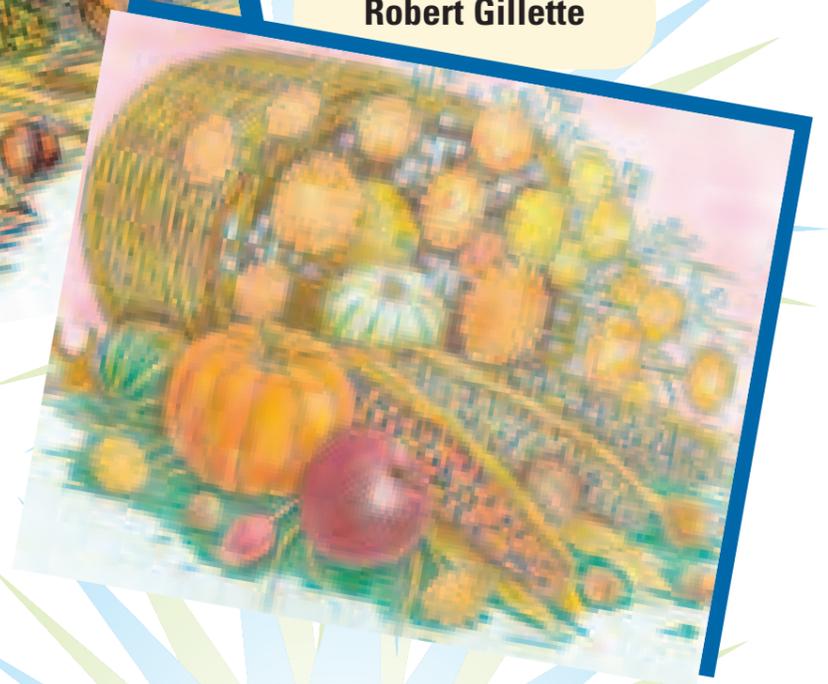
Congratulations to the winners, and good job to everyone who had fun!

**Runner Up:**

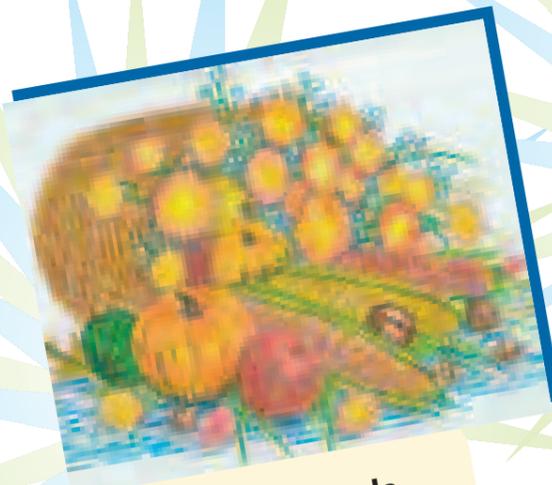
**Robert Gillette**



**Michael D. Zepeda**



**Honorable  
Mention:**



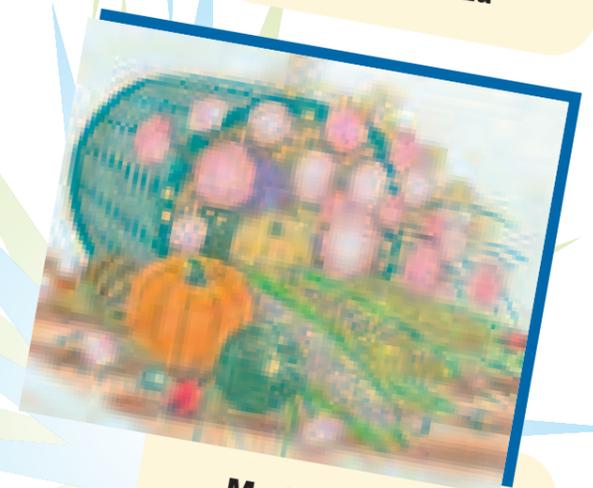
**Jaime Arredondo**



**Gina Meza**



**Patrick Donatien**



**Marilou Romney**

**Winner:**  
Michael D. Zepeda

Oppiqu-oper

**Runner Up:**  
Robert Gillette

Info Sys Manager

**Honorable Mention:**  
Gina Meza  
Jaime Arredondo  
Marilou Romney  
Patrick Donatien

Police Officer  
Senior Custodian  
Sr. Clerk Typist  
Retiree

**Other Entries**

Christiann Adtkins  
Kizzy Bryant  
Edison Callegari Jr.  
Norma Cibrán  
Carmen Clayborn  
Madoqueo Cruz  
Dorthea Devilla  
Lujeena Ennis  
Felicia Donatien  
Artemio Fierros  
Gloria Gonzalez-Funches  
Barbara Brogden-Jackson  
Dennis Johnson  
Margaret Hernandez  
Elisa Lam  
Javier Lopez  
Sasha Marquez  
Phyllis M. Massey  
Jorge Mendez  
Renee Ramire  
Rodolfo Rios  
Manny Romero  
Patrick Sanchez  
Daniel Tapia  
Kemia Thomas  
Nee Truong  
Graciela Vera  
Cynthia Lutzenberger

Police Ser. Rep II  
Security Officer  
BOE Cop LAX  
Crossing Guard  
Sr. Clerk Typist  
Truck Oper.  
Security Officer  
Crossing Guard  
Retiree  
Gen Services  
Clerk Typist  
Cust. Ser. Attn.  
Crossing Guard  
Sr. Analyst II  
Rec & Parks  
Animal Care Tech.  
Sr. Clerk Typist  
Police Officer  
Gardener  
Sr. Clerk Typist  
Retired  
WW II Gen Ser.  
Maint Welder  
Heavy Duty Truck Oper  
Office of Finance  
Sys Programmer II  
Custodial  
N/M



**Kids: Draw your best picture in the blank space below, and you could win a prize. Then, send it in just as you would any other coloring contest.**

**WIN  
a  
prize**

An award package will be given for each age group:  
\* Ages 5 and under  
\* Ages 6 to 7  
\* Ages 8 to 10

# Kids: Fill in the Blank!



**For the New Year, a new kind of coloring contest: follow the theme, fill in the blank!**

We want to know about you! Tell us a little about yourself:

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_

When is your birthday? \_\_\_\_\_ What is your favorite television show? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite snack? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the first name of your best friend? \_\_\_\_\_

I want to go to Universal Studios Hollywood because: \_\_\_\_\_

For parents/guardian to complete:

Name of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Job title and department with the City: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's address/state/zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit to:**

Club Coloring Contest  
City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
World Trade Center  
350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Deadline for submission:

**Jan. 10, 2006**

The Club will do everything it can to gather all the submissions, but it cannot be responsible for lost or misdirected mail.

**Good luck, and have fun!**



This month's theme:

# Valentine's Day



# Newsbriefs

## MULTI-FAMILY RECYCLING

The Los Angeles City Board of Public Works on Dec. 16 approved a Bureau of Sanitation plan to extend recycling services to all multi-family buildings – such as apartment buildings and condominium complexes – in the City. The Board action, by unanimous vote, follows what Board of Public Works President Cynthia Ruiz called a “highly successful” pilot program launched in Spring 2004 to determine the feasibility of a recycling program for multi-family buildings and the best collection method. The plan now will go to the Mayor and City Council for consideration.

“This program will extend recycling services to all Angelenos,” Ruiz said. “This will be a huge step toward protecting the environment, preserving valuable natural resources and achieving our goal of diverting 70 percent of our refuse from landfills by 2020.”

The plan is also aimed at complying with Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa’s directive for all residents of multi-family buildings in the City to have the ability to recycle by July 2008. “We currently divert more than 60 percent of our waste from landfill disposal,” said Bureau of Sanitation Director Rita R. Robinson, “and we need aggressive and innovative programs like multifamily building recycling to achieve our 70 percent diversion goal.”

“A great thing about this program is that it will not involve the expenditure of any taxpayer funds,” said Ruiz, who explained that “the estimated cost of \$6 million to \$10 million annually would be paid by permit fees from private waste haulers operating in the City.”

The pilot program involved providing recycling services to 61,000 multi-family dwellings around the city, according to Bureau of Sanitation Assistant Director Enrique Zaldivar, who heads the Solid Resources Group.

“By extending the program citywide, recycling services will be available to all the 541,000 privately served multi-family residential units in the City,” Zaldivar added. The Bureau of Sanitation already provides curbside recycling to 750,000 single-family dwellings and small multifamily complexes with fewer than five units.

Private waste haulers serve the 541,000 multi-family residential units in the City and will operate the recycling program under the supervision of the Bureau of Sanitation. The Bureau operates its own collection truck fleet to serve the 750,000 single-family dwellings and small multi-family complexes.

Under the new program, residents of multi-family buildings would separate recyclables from their trash and place them in a separate container for collection. Once collected they would go to a material recovery facility for processing.

OPPONENT	DATE	TICKETS AT PRICE
Philadelphia	1/6/06	<b>SOLD OUT</b>
Minnesota	3/15/06	\$25
Clippers	4/9/06	<b>SOLD OUT</b>

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# CLIPPERS

OPPONENT	DATE	TICKETS AT PRICE
Cleveland	12/3/05	<b>SOLD OUT</b>
Miami	12/5/05	<b>SOLD OUT</b>
Philly	3/17/06	\$80 each
Denver	1/28/06	\$70 each
New Jersey	1/25/06	\$60 each

Clipper Tickets All lower level seating! Seating is limited.

# STAND!

Stand up and be heard!  
Send us your thoughts on politics, the City, life in general. See page 3 for the Letters to the Editor.

talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

# Cooking with the Club

by our own  
**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](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com).

## Super Recipes for the Super Bowl

Happy New Year! Along with all the anticipation and eagerness to start the New Year fresh and renewed, we start the New Year with very tasty recipes from City employees. Gerald Teller offers the Teller Taco Dip, which fits well during Super Bowl month. Where's the tortilla chips, right? As you know, I'm a firm believer that super-tasty food can also be super easy to make. Gerald shows us a first-rate example of my belief.

A long time fan of the Cooking with the Club column, Darla Burgos finally has graced us with a personal favorite recipe called Spiced Citrus Wings. I bet she was thinking about Super Bowl food just as Gerald was with his taco dip recipe. Darla drove the point that the orange must be fresh to derive most of the natural flavors.

Jenny Pendleton offers Jenny-Style Chili, perfect for the cold nights or as a perfect dish for what else? The Super Bowl, of course. Jenny tells me that she used table salt for her recipe but has switched to sea salt since reading in one

of my columns a few years ago that I preferred it. She prefers it, too.

Super Bowl Jalapeño Poppers –what more can I say about Elaine Brady's recipe? This is a perfect tailgate dish or a general appetizer.

Elaine keeps this recipe very simple and with it preserves the aromatic taste.

Club staff member Cecelia Talbot shares with us the one and only Neiman-Marcus Cookies. This is a great cookie recipe that may or may not be actually connected to Neiman-Marcus, as a cookie recipe attributed to the upscale store has been floating on the Internet for some time, and has become something of an urban legend. What we do know is this: This recipe is out of this world. Cecelia knows cookies,

and this one is first-rate. She promises that if you give this a try, you'll never forget the taste.

These are super recipes and I thank everyone who shared them. Have a kick start to the New Year!



### The Teller Taco Dip

—Gerald Teller, Fire Department



#### INGREDIENTS:

1 package taco seasoning  
1/2 or light plain yogurt cup  
1/2 cup light sour cream  
1 package light cream cheese  
Salsa (optional)  
Shredded garnish: lettuce  
Chopped garnish: fresh tomatoes  
Grated garnish: cheese



#### DIRECTIONS:

Blend first four ingredients together. Spread into a glass serving dish and chill, covered, for at least two hours to allow flavors to blend and dip to set. When ready to serve, top with salsa, lettuce, tomatoes and cheese. Enjoy!



### Spiced Citrus Wings

—Darla Burgos, City Council



#### INGREDIENTS:

1/2 cup honey  
1/4 cup orange juice  
1 envelope Italian salad Dressing mix  
1 tbsp. hot pepper sauce  
28 chicken wings, separated at joints, tips discarded



#### DIRECTIONS:

Mix honey, juice, salad dressing mix and hot pepper sauce in large bowl. Reserve 1/4 cup honey mixture; refrigerate. Add chicken to bowl with remaining honey mixture; toss to coat. Cover. Refrigerate at least 1 hour to marinate. Drain; discard honey mixture.

Place chicken wings on rack of broiler pan. Broil 4 to 6 inches from heat 16 to 20 minutes or until chicken is cooked through, turning and brushing occasionally with reserved 1/4 cup honey mixture.



### Jenny - Style Chili

— Jenny Pendleton, Police Department



#### INGREDIENTS:

3 1/2 pounds beef for stew  
1/4 cup salad oil  
2 medium-size onions, chopped  
3 medium-size green peppers, diced  
4 garlic cloves, crushed  
Two 28-ounce cans tomatoes  
One 12-ounce can tomato paste  
1/3 cup chili powder  
1/4 cup sugar  
2 teaspoons sea salt (Chef Larios approves!)  
2 teaspoons dried oregano leaves  
3/4 teaspoon cracked black pepper



#### DIRECTIONS:

Cut beef for stew into half-inch cubes. In eight-quart Dutch oven over high heat, in hot salad oil, cook one-third of meat at a time, until browned. With slotted spoon, remove meat cubes to bowl as they brown; set aside.

Reserve half-cup onions; cover and set aside. Add green peppers, garlic and remaining onions to drippings in Dutch oven; over medium-high heat, cook 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Return meat to Dutch oven; add tomatoes with their liquid, tomato paste, chili powder, sugar, salt, oregano leaves, cracked black pepper, and two cups water; over high heat, heat to boiling. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 1.5 hours or until meat is fork-tender, stirring occasionally.

Spoon chili into large bowl. Pass reserved onion to sprinkle over each serving.



### Super Jalapeño Poppers

—Elaine Brady, Rec & Parks



#### INGREDIENTS:

1 (16 ounce) package cheddar cheese  
6 jalapeno peppers, seeded and halved  
12 slices bacon



#### DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the broiler.

Cut cheddar cheese into 12 slices long enough to fit inside the jalapeno halves. Insert cheese slices into the halves. Wrap the jalapeno halves with the bacon slices, securing with a toothpick, if necessary. Place on a medium baking sheet. Broil 5 to 10 minutes, or until the bacon is evenly brown.

### Nieman-Marcus Cookies

—Club Staff Member Cecelia Talbot



#### INGREDIENTS:

(Recipe may be halved)  
2 cups butter  
24 oz. chocolate chips  
4 cups flour  
2 cups brown sugar  
2 tsp. baking soda  
1 tsp. salt  
2 cups sugar  
1 8 oz. Hershey bar (grated)  
5 cups blended oatmeal  
4 eggs  
2 tsp. baking powder  
2 tsp. vanilla  
3 cups chopped nuts (your choice)



#### DIRECTIONS:

Measure oatmeal, and blend in a blender to a fine powder. Cream the butter and both sugars. Add eggs and vanilla, mix together with flour, oatmeal, salt, baking powder and soda. Add chocolate chips, Hershey bar and nuts. Roll into balls, and place two inches apart on a cookie sheet.

Bake for 10 minutes at 375 degrees. Makes 112 cookies.





## T.G., E.G. Team Up to Look at Buddy Movies

"E.T., phone home!" Or should that be, "E.G. phone home?"

Hello Popcorn fans. Welcome back to a new year of fun, a new year of laughs, a new year of tears and a especially a new year of movie reviews.

For January, we have chosen 1980s buddy films as our theme. How exactly that relates to January, well it really doesn't. For 2006, we are going to go totally off the obvious themes, being the unique individuals we are. No more romantic films for February, Irish films for March, Mother's Day films for May. We want unique themes, we want funny themes, we want

thought-provoking themes...we want the truth! (Oh wait, that's from a movie.)

So get ready for a new year of quirky themes ranging from "movies that you hate to love," "movies that begin with a 'Q,'" "when animals attack," "when humans attack," "movies that ruined careers," "movies with bad accents," etc. (These are just examples. We may/may not use them.) If you have an interesting theme, then please let us know! We're waiting to hear from you. This is TG and EG saying, "It's 106 miles to Chicago. We've got a full tank of gas and half a pack of cigarettes. It's dark and we're wearing sunglasses. Hit it."



## Join in the Fun

**Ticket Guy and Events Guru want you to join in the fun. If you do, you could win a prize! Here are the details:**

1. Submit a review (100 words or less, with a rating between 1 and 5) of a fun movie (either because it's really great or really bad). Make sure it's on next month's theme. Be creative! If we print your review, we'll send you a \$5 Blockbuster gift certificate. Send reviews to popcorn@cityemployeesclub.com
2. Answer the trivia questions. The first five Club members to answer correctly will win a \$10 Blockbuster gift certificate. Send your responses to popcorn@cityemployeesclub.com
3. Anyone can respond, but only Club Members with a valid Club membership number are eligible to win.
4. The feature is all in good fun: The Club is not responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!* or in the transmission of replies.

## Rating System

- ★★★★★ Must See/Must Buy
- ★★★★ Rent
- ★★★ Watch on cable
- ★★ Wait for it on Network TV
- ★ Break out the home videos and make your own movies) please e-mail it to popcorn@cityemployeesclub.com

### Movie of the Month



### Lethal Weapon

A veteran detective is partnered with a young detective with a suicidal death wish.

**E.G.:** This movie is pretty funny. It not only has action but comedy as well. By the way, whatever happened to Mel Gibson? I give it a 4.5 (out of 5)

**T.G.:** What can I say? It has action (T.G. likes action), comedy (T.G. loves to laugh, especially at, not with, E.G.); this movie has it all. This movie was the original that started it all. Favorite line: "I was driving before you were an itch in your daddy's pants." Glover, Gibson – a great combination. Mel is a little crazy in this one, but I'm used to it working with E.G. every day. I will bestow on this movie my highest rating ever – 4.0129 (out of 5). Go rent Lethal Weapon this weekend.

## TRIVIA CONTEST

Congratulations to three Club Members who answered our trivia questions correctly: **Gail Seltzer, Debbie Winger and Deborah Bunt, all from the DWP.**

Since our Popcorn trivia seems to be quite popular, we have added five more questions!

1. Name all the movies quoted in this month's introduction.
2. Mel Gibson was offered what role by Franco Zeffirelli after seeing Lethal Weapon?
3. What TV hit series was made into a movie in 2005 starring Jessica Simpson?
4. What actor sold a dead bird to a blind kid?
5. Name the mystery comedy starring Shelley Long and Bette Midler?
6. Which film's tagline is, "Only their mother can tell them apart"?
7. 13 Across in the Club Crossword.
8. These ladies try to pass themselves off as drag queens.
9. Gary and Wyatt try to create the perfect woman in what film?
10. A detective and a dog solve crimes in this 1989 film.

**The answers from last month are:**

1. Prancer
2. Bogeyland
3. Spinach rolls
4. Reginald Owen
5. *It's a Wonderful Life* and *Scrooged*

### Capsule reviews of other movies to watch this month:

**Tango and Cash**

**My Score:** ★★1/2

This is an action film starring Sylvester Stallone and Kurt Russell as cops in Los Angeles, who drive each other nuts. They are paired together to go after Jack Palance, who plays a drug kingpin. I enjoyed their chemistry and comedy. The movie has a lot of violence and bad language and is not suitable for kids.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

**The Blues Brothers**

**My Score:** ★★★★★

John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd star as Jake and Elwood Blues, who try to save the orphanage where they grew up. The movie is a lot of fun and has some great musical performances by James

Brown, Ray Charles and my favorite, Aretha Franklin. I used to know exactly what time to turn on this movie, just to see Aretha sing.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

**Twins**

**My Score:** ★★★★★1/2

Danny Devito and Arnold Schwarzenegger play fraternal twins who, after finding each other, decide to find their mother. I loved this movie, and the chemistry between these two actors was perfect. Lots of laughs. If you have not seen this one, you really should!

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

**48 Hrs.**

**My Score:** ★★★★★1/2

Nick Nolte plays a cop who pairs up with convict Eddie Murphy, who received a two-day furlough from prison to help capture his ex-partner. The movie has the violence, bad and racist language and what I love best, comedy!

– Gail Seltzer, DWP



"TG" The Ticket Guy Also known as Navin Cotton

"EG" The Events Guru Also known as Michelle Moreno



## Next Month's Theme:

We have chosen Spoof Films for February's Theme of the Month. Please submit your review (100 words or less) to popcorn@cityemployeesclub.com. If we publish it, we'll send you a \$5 certificate to Blockbuster!



## Send us your Book Reviews



Book Reviews by Fellow Club Members

### Bachelor Boys, My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Kate Saunders  
St. Martin's Press  
Adults, Romance Fiction, 290 pages

A dying mother's wish is to see her sons married before she dies. She solicits help in finding candidates to get hitched and take care of "her boys." They learn of the plan and go to great lengths to fulfill their mum's dream.

Reading this book, set in London, I initially feared the vernacular would be too confusing to interpret – not so. The boy's antics, conquests, friends and acquaintances range from comical to heartbreaking. This ensemble of 30-somethings grapples with issues of sibling rivalry, finances, betrayal, death, passion and parent/child relationships. Who winds up with whom is a predictable, pretty-ribbon tied happy ending that fortunately does not detract from the journey that gets you there. Enjoy Bachelor Boys. I sure did.

– Carmen Y. Steward,  
Fire and Police Pensions

### The Color of Family, My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Patricia Jones  
Avon  
Adult, Fiction, 352 pages

Antonia, the twin of a dead black man, tries to prove that he fathered a child, the product of a relationship with a white girl. Her obsession with the boy, a popular concert pianist, has impaired her family for years, and they now set out to prove that she is delusional.

Antonia's children don't feel they have a mother who cares about or actually knows them; her husband has accepted her peculiar ways, for he has secrets of his own, and her nephew's mother adamantly denies his paternity.

Each character struggles with his or how own demons – be it race, relationships, history, tradition, fidelity or parental love. The explosions of family secrets are inevitable, but the resulting aftershocks are surprising.

– Carmen Y. Steward,  
Fire and Police Pensions

### Heartstone, My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Phillip Margolin  
Bantam  
Adults, 416 pages

I enjoyed this book so much that it inspired me to write a book review to share with my co-Club members.

This is a suspense novel about a young couple who were at a local lover's lane one night and met a terrible fate. The young man was attacked and killed that same night, but for his girlfriend, death came later. Of course, their murder is the main plot of the book, but the writer weaves his story so artfully that there are twists and turns along the way.

From the start, this book hooks you right away because it starts off with a dying derelict who had a secret to reveal. The rest of the story will keep you flipping the pages till the end. Great book!

– Marilou Romney, LAPD

## 100 Words or Less!

To all our movie (in theaters), book and theater reviews, here are the rules: Keep it short and fun!

■ Keep all reviews to 100 words or less (but try to come close; try to write more than a sentence or two)

■ 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).

(And not everything is a five!)

■ Make sure to give us your name and City department (or retired)

■ Have fun!

## 100 Words or Less!

# IN THEATERS

## Movie Reviews by Fellow Club Members

### The Ice Harvest

My Score: 1 (out of 5)



Rated R, Adults

After about 15 to 20 minutes, I thought about walking out, but I thought the movie would get better. But as usual, it didn't. This is another movie I would put on the "worst" list. John Cusack was a very quiet and dark character, and Billy Bob Thornton was not much different from characters he has played in the past. In fact, the whole movie was dark. The only thing that was worthwhile was the comedy from Oliver Platt. Him I would give a 5. I would not recommend the movie to any one, not even to rent.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

My Score: 1 (out of 5)

I was really excited to go see this film ... I mean, Billy Bob Thornton, John Cusack, Oliver Platt – it shoulda been great, right? Wrong! The story was okay, I guess. The ads for the movie compared it to Bad Santa. Other than it being about a crime committed at Christmas time, there is no comparison to Bad Santa! I just didn't care about the characters...there was no chemistry. The movie seemed like piecemeal, and when I was done watching it, I felt like they left some major pieces out! As far as I'm concerned, keep your money. I wouldn't even watch this one on HBO.

– Debbie Winger, DWP

### Yours, Mine and Ours

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Rated PG, Adults and children

It's not as good as the original, but I never really expected it to be. Who could top Henry Fonda and Lucille Ball? But Dennis Quaid and Renee Russo did a good job. I did enjoy the movie, although I think it could have been a lot better and funnier. The movie is good for the whole family.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

My Score: 2.5 (out of 5)

I had just seen the 1968 version starring Henry Fonda and Lucille Ball. This version with Dennis Quaid and Rene Russo just did not seem as funny as the original. The story of how the two separate families got together was different. What did not change is that Quaid had eight children and Russo had ten children. When they combined their families is when the fun begins. The movie did have a nice message and would be a family movie.

– Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

### Zathura

My Score: 3.5 (out of 5)



Rated PG, Adults and children

I really enjoyed this movie, although I thought the special effects could have been so much better. The robot and lizards were really nothing spectacular. But even so, I was kept entertained. This sci-fi/action movie is good for the entire family.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

### Just Friends

My Score: 2.5 (out of 5)



Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

This was another predictable romance/comedy, starring Ryan Reynolds and Amy Smart. Not one of the best, but it did have some nice comedy. The movie is suitable for teens and up.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

### Little Manhattan

My Score: 3.5 (out of 5)

Rated PG, Adults and children

Josh Hutcherson, who is also in Zathura, plays an 11-year-old boy who falls in love for the first time. This is a very sweet movie for pre-teens and younger teens. Some older people will enjoy this, too. You know who you are! Putting in fine performances are Cynthia Nixon and Bradley Whitford as the parents of Josh.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

### Walk the Line

My Score: 4.5 (out of 5)



Rated PG-13, Adults and older teens

This movie, about Johnny and June Carter Cash, is one of the best biography films I have ever seen. If Joaquin Phoenix and Reese Witherspoon aren't nominated for Academy Awards for this picture, there is no justice. Ginnifer Goodwin, who plays Johnny Cash's first wife, should also be nominated. I thoroughly enjoyed every minute of this film. Excellent performances, impressive singing (the actors did their own singing and playing), and a great story make this one a must see!

– Debbie Winger, DWP

### Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

My Score: 3.5 (out of 5)

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

Just like the book, the movie was long and dark. I really did not like that and was disappointed, but I still love Harry Potter and most all the characters. The lightheartedness and magical fun seem to have pretty much disappeared, which saddens me. I would like a new story that does not involve Lord Voldemort. The movie is okay for teens and up. I think it is too dark for young children.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Like so many others, I anxiously awaited the release of this film. This is definitely the darkest of the Harry Potter movies, but the great performances and special effects make it one of the best! I wouldn't take really young kids to see this one, it's just too scary. I have to admit, I haven't read the books, so the first 45 minutes or so of the film had me a little confused and seemed a little boring. Once I got into it, I really enjoyed the film. I'm told by Harry enthusiasts that this one stayed relatively true to the book, although apparently some things (and characters) were left out. Overall, the movie is magical, and it's great fun to see the three main characters growing up right before our eyes!

– Debbie Winger, DWP

### Derailed

My Score: 5 (out of 5)



Rated R, Adults

I don't think this movie got very good reviews, because I don't recall hearing anything about it. But if you like a good mystery, with a twist at the end, you'll like this. Jennifer Aniston plays the lead female and Clive Owen plays the lead male. The two meet on the train and begin a liaison, despite being married. I thought the movie kept you guessing about who was going to do what next. I think the ending will surprise you, so go see the movie if you like to figure these types of movies out.

– Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

### Syriana

My Score: 0 (out of 5)

Rated R, Adults



This has to be one of the worst movies I have ever seen. It was about the oil in the Middle East and the United States. The movie jumped back and forth between scenes, and half the time you did not know what was going on. The movie glorified suicide bombers. I would not recommend this movie if they paid you to watch it. You would have thought with George Clooney and Matt Damon, it would have been at least a decent movie, but it seemed like a propaganda movie.

– Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

# MEMBER BULLETIN BOARD

## Hello City Employees,

I am enjoying my retirement. I have started a **Bed and Breakfast** in Klamath Falls, Ore., with my partner, Helen Hall. For the best view of the lake come and the most competitive price going, come stay with us when traveling through or visiting Klamath Falls. Would love to have you! — Jerry

Contact Jerry and Helen:

**Jerry Klippness and Helen Hall**  
2371 Lakeshore Dr.  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601  
(541) 850-2586



## Dancers Wanted!

Like to dance? Consider joining the **DWP Dance Club**. And just in time for the annual holiday show Dec. 1! Men especially welcome.

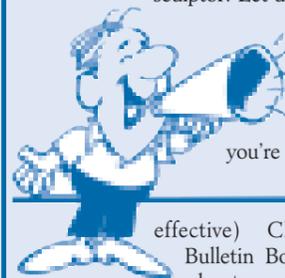
Call Lourdes Zerrudo,  
(213) 367-1405, or  
send an email to  
Lourdes.Zerrudo@ladwp.com



## Introducing a new feature to *Alive!*: The Member Bulletin Board

Do you have a personal notice that you want to share with other Club Members? This is the place!

Are you raising money for a charity? Singing in a concert? Selling raffle tickets for a good (and legitimate) cause? Having a yard sale or bake sale? Do you have a special after-work career like a magician or musician or balloon sculptor? Let us know, and we'll



put a notice in the Member Bulletin Board. Remember, though, that if you're selling an item, please use our great (and effective) Classifieds. The Bulletin Board is for news about your doings.

Send the notice to:  
[bulletinboard@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:bulletinboard@cityemployeesclub.com)

## CLUB CORNER Check Out These Groups

*Alive!* offers this space every month for Club members to invite other Club members to join their group. It could be work-related, or social, or all about your hobbies. Whatever it is, send us a notice at [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com), and we'll post the notice free ... as a service to our members!

### Fly Fishing Enthusiasts

A club is forming in the Santa Clarita area for fly fishing enthusiasts with all levels of skill. Call Theodore J. Aquaro, (661) 513-1595.



### LA City Employee's Asian American Association

Established in 1971, the Los Angeles City Employees Asian American Association (LACEAAA) was formed to represent employees of Asian/Pacific Islander descent and assist in



Douglas Shur,  
President

protecting them from discriminatory acts in their application to, and employment, with the City; and advance employment, education, economic, and social concerns of Asian/Pacific Islanders in City service; and resolve unique work-related problems of any Association member. Call (213) 847-2229 or write to LACEAAA,

P.O. Box 86323, Los Angeles, CA 90086 or visit us at [www.laceaaa.org](http://www.laceaaa.org).

### Los Angeles Filipino Assoc. of City Employees

In 1980, the Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees (LAFACE) was organized to serve as an advocate to the fast-growing number of Filipinos in City service. Its primary goal is to promote the general advancement of Filipinos in the City. LAFACE works cooperatively with other minority groups in promoting equal employment opportunities in the City. LAFACE does not limit its function to assisting Filipinos in acquiring employment, promotion, and passing examinations in the City, but also to promoting the economic, educational, social, and cultural advancement of Filipinos in the community.

### DWP Choraliers

Those interested in performing can join the DWP Choraliers, a performing arts (music, theatre, dance) group with performances throughout the year. You do not have to be a DWP employee. The group usually meets a couple of times a week on Tuesdays and Wednesdays or Wednesdays and Thursdays. Contact April Steffen, (213) 367-4514.

### Association of City Employees with Disabilities

The Association of City Employees with Disabilities (ACED) is committed to the recruitment, employment, retention and promotion of persons with disabilities. Also, ACED counsels and represents employees faced with discrimination on the job. Call Joe O'Toole at (213) 847-9213.

### Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel

The mission of the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel (LAABP) is to motivate, encourage and educate individuals to realize their dreams and move forward in their career within City government. Contact Steve King at (213) 580-5387 or write to LAABP, P.O. Box 53822, Los Angeles, CA 90043-0822.

### Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA)

The Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA) was established in 1971 and was the first City recognized employee Affirmative Action Association. Membership is



Jackie Zarate, President

open to anyone interested in supporting the goals and objectives of the organization. LACECA is dedicated to promoting equal employment opportunities in our workplace, City government and community.

It sponsors and supports a variety of training events and seminars to assist employees in their career development. Meetings are usually held the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Personnel Department Building, 700 E. Temple Street. Contact Carlos Portillo, (310) 547-4610, email [portillo2339@sbcglobal.net](mailto:portillo2339@sbcglobal.net) or write to LACECA, P.O. Box 53590, Los Angeles, CA 90053.

### Affirmative Action Association for Women

Established by the City Council as the official representative for female City employees, the Affirmative Action Association for Women (AAAW) has been representing women for more than 25 years. The AAW is an employee advocate organization that gives particular attention to the advancement of women and minority employees of the City of Los Angeles. Its members, both male and female, serve on association, department, and Citywide committees that focus attention on personnel policies and practices and support a continuing commitment to equal employment opportunities as a basic principle of the City's merit system. Call (213) 847-AAAW, write to AAW, P.O. Box 53488, Los Angeles, CA 90053, or visit the Website at [www.la-aaaw.org](http://www.la-aaaw.org).

### The British and Dominion Social Club

Anglophiles, unite! Join President Michael Barnes (who works for Harbor Dept.) in celebrating all things British, with fun social events and networking. "We do all kind of different things, from watching live soccer, playing cricket and teaching Highland dancing, to name a few." The Club meets in Garden Grove. Go to [www.britclub.org](http://www.britclub.org) for more info.



Michael Barnes,  
President

### DWP Dance Club

The DWP Dance Club is for anyone (men, too) who likes to dance. The club, in its sixth year, practices Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:30 – 12:15 p.m. during lunch hour. The annual show for employees is scheduled for Dec. 1 in the cafeteria. The following styles are taught: salsa, cha-cha, rumba, bolero, swing, samba, tango, swing and other ballroom dances. Free to all DWP employees and City employees. Contact Lourdes Zerrudo: (213) 367-1405, or [Lourdes.Zerrudo@ladwp.com](mailto:Lourdes.Zerrudo@ladwp.com).

### Los Angeles Municipal Accountants and Auditors Assoc.

LAMAAA is a professional organization of municipal and local government accounting, fiscal and auditing practitioners with a membership of more than 300. The conference was a City-sponsored event. All those who participated were either City or DWP employees.

#### THE GROUP'S MISSION IS:

- To develop members and assist them acquire the necessary skills to promote themselves towards better positions and responsibilities.
- To promote and perpetuate the prestige and professional status of municipal accountants and auditors.
- To assist each other and develop professional camaraderie, team spirit and cooperation among its members.
- To develop and improve educational techniques in management, commercial, proprietary, governmental accounting and auditing.

#### IT ACCOMPLISHES ITS MISSION BY:

- Present experts as guest speakers at monthly meetings.
- Host trainings, seminars and other educational programs.
- Publish online newsletters and other informational materials.
- Provide opportunities for members to know and network with their colleagues in other agencies and departments.

#### BE A MEMBER:

LAMAAA membership is open to all current employees of the City who are either performing accounting, auditing or fiscal functions or have the required educational background or degree in accounting but are in a different job classification. Applicants must fill out a membership application form and submit it with a \$10 donation to the LAMAAA representative in his/her department.

### Public Works Toastmasters

The Public Works Pioneers Toastmasters Club meets each Wednesday at noon at 650 S. Spring St. in the 12th floor Giannini Room. Guests are always welcome. Joining the club is inexpensive, educational and fun. Toastmasters International is an internationally well-known, non-profit organization that helps its members to improve their communication skills, lose their fears of public speaking and learn skills that will help them succeed in their personal and professional goals. For more information, contact Ivan Gerson at (213) 847-8844.

# CLASSIFIED ADS *Alive!*

## Members Marketplace

### Autos / Motorcycles

**1993 Chrysler New Yorker** as is. Runs well, 88,000 miles. \$2,500 obo. Call India 310-412-1006. email: shortindo@sbcglobal.net.

**2004 Chrysler Sebring LXI** 4 door, Beautiful condition!! Drk Grey, Auto, leather seats, sunroof, 6 cd changer, power windows, power lock, power seat \$13,000 Please call 661 424-2931.

**95 COACHMEN B 19'** CHEVY CHASSIS-SLEEPS 5-SELF CONTAINED-GENERATOR-A/C-MICROWAVE-REFRIGERATOR-MARINE TOILET-12V/LP/120-75K MI. \$18,200 CONTACT: Carole 661 257-4794

**2000 Dodge Durango:** low miles 10K-OBO. 1999 Dodge Durango 9K call Tim (909)225-2335

**1991 Ford Bronco XLT 4X4:** 6" lift kit, new a/c, pwr windows/cruise control/pwr door locks/tinted windows, great tires. \$5,500 obo. Cindy (213) 483-8253

**2000 Toyota Rav4** Blue book \$11,350.00 OBO. 46,000 miles. excellent condition. 1-562-413-4990 One Owner

**1994 Chevy 1500 pickup** short bed, V6 4.3 Liter, 5 Speed Manual, 2 Wheel Drive, 68,000 miles, Air, P. Steering, AM/FM Cassette, Shell, Alloy Wheels, \$4,500 Exl. Cond. Call (310)701-7381

**91 Honda Civic LX** 5 speed, AC, Power Windows, AM/FM Radio, Brown in color, \$2000 OBO, Call 310-671-6991

**RV For Sale - 1996 Daybreak Motorhome** Only 42,000 miles, 27 ft. Chevy V-8, Great Cond. Has everything. Summer is near. Only \$35,000. Call Ray 626-969-6609

**2002 Ford Explorer Sport LOADED!!!** 59,000 miles. Excellent condition.\$10,000/best offer. Don't Delay. Call 661-296-2611. email: aoc@comcast.net

**2003 Chevy Silverado.** Black, very clean, 21,000 miles 6" fabtech lift kit, off road tires, tint, custom stereo system. \$24,500 obo. Joe (323) 240-8117. JDOSS@LAWA.org.

**For Sale: 89,900 1981 GOLDENWEST 14 X 60 Mobile Home.** 2 BDRM 1 BATH. Lovely 55 and older Sr. Park, Ventura, CA. New flooring, kitchen & living room. 5 miles from the beach. Double carport. Walking distance to the new shopping center. (661) 273-3766.

**2001 VW Beetle,** low miles automatic, fully loaded, excellent condition, sunroof, metallic silver color. 14,500. (661) 575-0574.

**Mazda MPV Van,** 1996, 7-seater, low 71,500 miles, white, automatic, CD player, roof rack, 3rd seat, \$7,500 blue book, selling \$6,500. Call (323)841-3455.

**2000 Harley Davidson Deuce,** big bore kit 1550/95 cubic engine, supercharge air filter, lots of chrome, 9700 miles. \$17,000 o.b.o. Call (909) 5784944, (909) 578-4945 or (909) 899-7191.

**96 Bounder Motorhome** - 35U, excel cond, 17000mi, ford v8, nice floorplan. Asking \$38,000 Call 661 296 2611 or email aoc@comcast.net

**Truck For Sale** - 1979 Ford Courier P/U with Camper Shell, new alt, rebuilt carb, needs work. \$600 obo call Mark L. (323) 233-0731. Call btwn: 4:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Mon-Thurs.

**1993 Honda Accord LX** - Asking \$3,000. obo Contact Tim (909) 225 2335

**2000 Durango** - Low miles 9K OBO, 1999 Durango 8K. Call Tim (909) 225-2335.

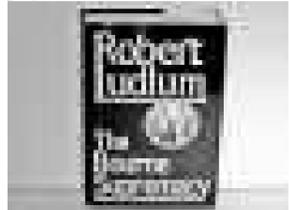
**AUTO INSURANCE** - Group rated, fast approvals - (800) 640-1712 for free quote

**Classic 57 Ford Truck** - Half-Ton Truck Custom Tire and Rims AUTOMATIC 20,000 Miles \$6,500 OBO Contact: Alex Serna, 818-361-6552

**1997 Nissan Altima** - 96,400 miles. Runs well-engine clean. Power steering, brakes, windows. Automatic, am/fm stereo. \$4,500 OBO. Contact Joan happydance@mail.com or 818-953-9885 after 5:30pm.

### Books

**Hooked on Phonics reading program kit.** Mint condition. Normally sells for \$300, asking a no-haggle price of \$200. Call Frank at: 323-644-4259



**First edition book for sale:** The Bourne Supremacy (1986). In excellent condition. With only a few signs of shelf wear and some minor staining, but this is practically new. THIS FIRST EDITION WILL MAKE AN EXCELLENT KEEPER, OR GIFT for just \$5. Call 213-760-4521 or email rlaros@alumni.usc.edu

### Electronics/Computers

**DIGITAL CAMERA.** Cybershot 2.0 Mega Pixels. Model DSC-P51. LIKE NEW CONDITION. Included Manual, camera cover, battery charger, usb cables. Firm \$80. Contact Robert at rlaros@alumni.usc.edu

**VHS MOVIE CLASSICS:** 3 movies. STILL in WRAP-PERS. From Here to Eternity(1953), The Fly (1958), Spartacus (1960). \$20 for all 3!!! Contact Robert at 213-760-4521.

**53" Panasonic Projection Stereo Television Set.** Excellent condition. 1 yr old. (909) 444-4938

**Revolving CD Tower.** Black Wood /w glass grwaer at bottom -\$80.00 - call 323-342-6053

**TVs and VCR. 19" TV's** \$60.00 ea. VCR \$50.00 ea. Call (562) 301-2940.

**New Magic Microphone** - Karaoke/Videoke/Microphone-in-one. Includes 800 songs chip. Brand New, Cost \$500, now only \$359. Call (323) 841-3455.

**Super Deluxe Typewriter** 1930's Kirby model 508 xint cond recently serviced \$250-obo 818-781-1747

**Super Deluxe Typewriter** 1940's vintage Olympia model. Mint condition with table. \$300 - OBO. 818-781-1747.

**Mitsubishi 60" Big Screen TV** only 3 1/2 years old, Superb picture in picture, two tuners, stereo, erfect condition, all black cabinet, paid \$2,700 asking \$900.00 OBO. CALL JOE at 818-288-4269/laguilles@sbcglobal.net

### Furniture

**Oak Vanity for Bedroom with mirror** - good cond. 1950 vintage \$150.00 obo call Nels 562-868-2556

**Work & Play corner workstation** for computer or tv use. Plenty of storage spaces-maple/galaxy in new condition-assembled, ready to use \$80.00 OBO. 909-444-4938

**"Fine French Furniture"**, Drexel Arm Chair and Ottoman \$650 like new. Server \$350, like new. Contact Bob at (818) 986-6044.

**All Glass Dining Table,** sits 8. Must sell. \$120. Call (323) 841-3455.

**Bed: California King.** Box spring only, no mattress. Frame with wheels included. Brand New \$50. Please call (323) 466-6626.

**Sofa and Love Seat,** xlint condition. Beige color, 6 months old, \$150 - OBO. Call 818-781-1747

### Homes/Rentals/Land

**KING ESTATES: 39th Street.** Remodeled large one bedroom back house. Hardwood, carpet and tile flooring, tiled kitchen and bathroom. \$1000.00 a month + security deposit, credit and background check. For more information call (213) 359-0059

**Condo for Rent.** 1 bedroom unfurnished. Has icemaker refrigerator, 2 AC. Only \$680 a month. Sun Valley. Call 805-577-0781

**Real Estate Loans** - "Let me find a loan for your needs" Kevin Neustadter 818 384 4869

**House 4 Sale!** \$255,000 Located in Independence CALIF. Fenced Yard. 3 bedrooms/1 bath Call John Martindale @ 760-937-5166.

**Condo for Sale** in Long Beach 2 bd 2 bath top floor overlooking L.B. with cathedral ceiling, washer/dryer hook up 2 tandem parking spaces. Purchase \$325K Call (909)225-2335

**Back house for RENT!!!** Nice, clean large one bedroom.Near 110, 105 Fwy & Blue Line Metro Link. Utilities included. \$750 a month. Call Latrease for appt. @ 323-385-5059

**Trying to sell your home without an agent?** I'm interested and in search of the best price. Preferably a 3 bedroom and 1 to 2 bathroom home. Call Gilberto at 323-262-5618.

**LOOKING TO RENT!!!** Having trouble finding a GOOD TENANT??? Do YOU have a bachelor, single, or 1 bedroom apartment or house to rent??? I am looking to rent and I will even take care of cleaning and yard work for owner. I can afford \$400.00 - \$500.00 per month. Please call (323)627-6558 or (323) 769-6269.

**LOOKING TO RENT!!!** I would like to rent for myself a bach, single or 1 bedroom apartment or house. (will take care of cleaning and yard work for owner). I can afford \$400.00-\$500.00 per month. Please call 323-796-6269 message or 323-971-2828, cell 323-627-6558.

**Land** - 1.64 acres (net acres) in Lancaster. Nice buildable corner parcel (8th St. West) Facing on paved main street West Avenue A. \$85K OBO (909) 225-2335

**Condo 4 RENT.** Condo in Glendale-newly remodeled. \$1,700/month. 2 BRM, 1 3/4 bath-washer & dryer in unit. 1 subterranean parking spc, heated pool, Jacuzzi, near parks, freeway, malls, schools. Call Antoinette 213-321-1282.

**Room 4 RENT!** Roland Heights. \$500 + utilities. Single Parents welcome. Call 714-469-5273.

**Roommate wanted** - 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath home, \$600/month. 1/2 water bill. In Corona. Call 323-533-5001.

**Green Valley Lake Cabin Rental** - 3 bedroom, 2-bath fully equipped mountain cabin. Between Big Bear and Arrowhead. Quiet, edge of forest, panoramic view. Call at (909) 867-3534. Ask for the Fick Cabin, #45.

**Brand New House for Rent** - Alhambra adjacent 3 Bedrooms / 2 bath. Washer & dryer hookups, gated yard / parking. \$2000-2200 (upper) minutes from Civic Center. Call 626-827-6822 or 818 581-6019.

### Household Items

**Free above ground Spa.** 6 foot in diameter. Heating element not operational. If you can haul it, you can have it! Call 213-367-2967.

**George Foreman Grill...**FAMILY SIZE with BONUS Popcorn Popper. New in Box! Only \$45. Get it today! Call 818-637-8328, leave message.

**Black and Decker Blender.** \$15. Powerful ice Crushmaster with 10 speeds. Will go quickly! 818-637-8328.

**SMALL COUNTER TOP DISH WASHER.** GREAT FOR SMALL FAMILY, SINGLE PERSON, DROMS. IT'S BRAND NEW STILL IN ORIGINAL BOX, ALL ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED, IT WASHES 4 PLACE SETTINGS, ASKING \$150.00 ANY QUESTIONS CALL (323) 298-5414 ASK FOR MRS MORTON. (NO PERSONAL CHECKS PLEASE)

**Ionic Breeze:** regular 350.00, out the door for 300.00. Alle-germ free your environment. As-Seen-On-TV. Brand new in the box. Call Joe 323-750-7005 or JEDA3R@hotmail.com.

**Vintage Refrigerator:** Frigidaire by General Motors, early 50's. White, crown motif, small freezer inside, storage bin below. Works fine. \$100 obo. Please call (323) 466-6626.

**Refrigerator** - Amana (almond color). 23 cu. feet with top freezer. Excellent running condition. \$95. Call (818) 994-6695. Ask for Lea.

**George Foreman Baby Rotisserie** - still in box, \$40 obo. Call Ernest at 909 444-4938.

**Microwave Ovens** - 2 Heavy duty. duable, Good for big family, only \$30. each. (323)841-3455.

**Clamp on Swing Arm Magnifying lamp** - \$10. Call Ernest 909-444-4938

**Spa/Pool Teledyne Laars, gas heater** -175000 btu, Asking \$75. Call (661) 296 2611 or email aoc@comcast.net

**Brand New Countertop Dishwasher** - Comes with attachments. Still in box. Must sell for \$50.00. Great for elderly, dorm room, single, small family. Please call Kim Morton (323) 734-0134.

### Miscellaneous

**Scrap Books for Sale.** Pick your theme or an already made Scrap Book. Will make nice Christmas Gifts. All you have to do is add your own Pictures. If interested please call (562) 587-7753

**PLUS SIZE DESIGNER BRIDAL GOWNS.** Gorgeous. Sizes 14-32. Brand new, never worn. Many styles from \$298-\$490. Call Dee 310-398-1217 or e-mail DAngela4@comcast.net

**WANTED: Last few issues of Hollywood Reporter magazine.** Call and leave message at 213-760-4521.

**EARN EXTRA INCOME**  
For more info, please contact:

www.Bedasa.igi-art.com  
Email: bedasa@adelphia.net  
Or call Daisy (909) 467-0181  
Independent Member

**OAKLAND RAIDERS TICKETS:** 2 tickets to all home games located on the 45 YL three rows from the field!!! Tickets are \$300.00 per pair per game. Call Joe at 909-519-8683 for more info or e-mail RAIDERJO@ADELPHIA.NET for pic of seats.

**Cemetery Plots for Sale:** Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA. in the very Desirable Greenwood Gardens. Spaces #1, #2, #3, #4 - Lot 1664 Valued @ 2,800 ea. Will sell @ 2,200 ea. Obo. Call Henry J. Stemmann 928-772-0029 or email @ corkeyone@netscape.com

**RAW WWE Tix/Robert Plant/Rolling Stone Tix** Anaheim Greek Theater, Anaheim. Call Frank cell 323-606-3779 Pgr 310-236-1804

**Line-X,** a superior coating for truck beds, decks, stairs, boats, trailers, etc., \$30 off or UV Sealer given to all city L.A. personnel. Herb Grageda 310-809-9949

**1982 Valco Runabout Boat** 12', 7.5 merc outboard, 2 new swivel seats, and trailer. Great for fishing 1,500.00 OBO (909)980-7213

**Cemetery Plot for Sale** - Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Covina Hills Interment Space 4, Lot 1096 Section- Victory Price \$2,000 OBO. Contact Melvin Franklin 951-808-4748 evenings or tookeemee2@yahoo.com

**Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills, companion lawn crypt.** Area 4AB-Block 6413. Ascending Dawn Section. (818) 771-4587.

**FOR SALE - 24 in. Highland Park diamond lapidary saw,** \$850. Approximately 100+ pounds of polished, tumbled gem stones, various types and sizes, \$250. 100+ LP records in original jackets, make offer. Call Ted (evenings) (661) 260-3629.

**Orinoco, Purple, and Hawaiian Apple Banana Trees.** \$20 each. Call Bruce (562)-856-1008 or (562) 433-5823.

**Notary Service** - The Travelling Notary serving the greater Los Angeles area 24/7. Bonded. Document preparation also available. (310) 766-0964.

**Healing Massage** - All aches, pains, emotional distress, and stress. No fee. Donations Only! Call Millie (323) 724-1295

**Aroma Therapy** - Essential Oils and lamps imported from Paris. An air purifier, ionizer, perfect air freshener. Eliminates bacteria, virus, odor, nicotine in the air. Helps relieve asthma, flu, sinus, insomnia. Improves memory, blood circulation. Try Eucalyptus, Lavender, Green Tea, Santal, Ginseng, etc., 500ml Oil, only \$24. Lamp/Burner Diffuser, \$75. Call (323)0841-3455.

**FISH TANK STAND** - \$35, stand for 20 gal. tank; white-washed; dimensions 26 1/2" x 14" x 30"; call Heidi @ 310-831-3933.

**Antique Barbershop Chair** - 1904, maker Phéo A. Kochs. \$1,000.00 restore project; call (818) 361-6552.



**NEW! NOT OPENED** - Salon Recommended. One liter of Aveda Rosemary Mint Shampoo. Sealed in Plastic Wrap. \$20 a bottle. Only 3 left!!! Call 213-760-4521 or email rlaros@alumni.usc.edu



**FOR SALE** - Antique USC TROJAN DECANTER-1972 of the Coach John McKay era. In remarkable condition! Very few of these left in the world. Selling for \$2,000 FIRM. Call Robert at 213-760-4521.



**Watch** - Geneva Quartz. Japanese Movement. Chronograph dials are cosmetic only. Stainless Steel back. \$30. (213) 620-0388, ask for John

### Sports/Exercise

**Complete Home Gym** Elliptical, Air Walker, Timeworks FX. Like New! \$80 each. All 3 \$210. Call Miguel (818) 497-4149.

**Adidas High Top Football Cleats** brand new, size 11, "Corney Blitz" model with replaceable cleats. Paid \$70.00, Sale for \$60.00 Frank 818-605-0502 cell

**Exercise equipment** Lateral Thigh Trainer w/video and Nordic Trac Walk Fit Treadmill-both for 100.00 or best offer. Paula 818-648-4968

**14 Foot Fiberglass Boat** - 40 horse power, needs minor repairs, \$200. Call Rolando (323) 829-1823

### Travel / Timeshare



**PALM SPRINGS CONDO FOR RENT** Close to the Village & Spa Resort Casino. 1 Bedroom/1 Bath, Sleeps 5, Gated Community with 8 Swimming Pools & Spas, Tennis Court and Shuffleboard Court. Call for Weekday & Weekend Rates! (562) 301-2940

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**Time Share: Maui** - Kahana Villa Resort, 1 bedroom, air conditioning, kitchen. Directly across Kahana Beach. Buy for \$7500 OBO. Call Jasmin for more information (213) 580-1183.

**Time Share: Palm Springs.** Club Trinidad, Deluxe Studio. Will sell for \$900 or best offer. Call John at (661) 285-1074.

**Timeshare: Desert Springs, Calif.** Call Olivia: (323) 724-9535

## FREE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR CLUB MEMBERS

**MEMBERS: to place your free classified ad** send us your information (25 total words maximum) including your name, item, description, price, phone number or e-mail address.

You can fax to (213) 620 0598 or email to classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com. We'll run your ad in the next available issue. Your ad may be edited for length or appropriateness.

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

**WANTED: YOUR TOY TRAINS,** any age, any size. Contact Mike, (818)-831-0846



**Time Share: Cancun** - Park Royal Piramides Beach Resort. RENT: \$798.00/week SALE: \$3,800. Walking distance to restaurants, shopping and clubs. Please call (562) 301-2940.

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

**RETIRED AUTHENTIC 1998 full set of 12 TEENIE BEANIE BABIES** in perfect condition in bags with attached tags for authenticity. This is the second collection and is very RARE for find all 12 together. I recently looked on an updated (2004) price list site for the teenies and this set values for almost \$200.00 so this is a STEAL at \$50.00! The beanies are: 1) Doby the Doberman 2) Bongo the Monkey 3) Twigs the Giraffe 4) Inch the Worm 5) Pinchers The Lobster 6) Happy the Hippo 7) Mel the Koala 8) Scoop the Pelican 9) Bones the Dog 10) Nip the Cat 11) Waddle the Penguin 12) Peanut the Elephant. Call (818) 353-6546



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



**Commemorative Coin** - Disney's Haunted Mansion, 2005. Still in unopened package, \$20. (213) 620-0388, ask for John

## Wanted

**Wanted: Your childhood Barbie dolls and clothes.** I collect dolls from 1959 through 1966. I pay top dollar! I will buy one to 1,000 dolls. Clothing, structures, cases, yes, I will buy them, too. Anything vintage Barbie! Call Cheryl: (818) 771-4835

**Wanted: Log Splitter** - small trailer mounted gas powered hydraulic - call Dan at (818) 535-6951.

**Wanted: Remote Control Army Tank** - with variable speed. Call John at (818) 832-5522

**Wanted: Homes/Rental/Land:** Looking to buy: 2.5 to 5.0 acres with or without a structure in Morongo Valley, Yucca Valley, or Joshua Tree area. Call Dan at (818) 535-6951.

**Wanted: Hi performance parts for small block Chevy.** Edelbrock: Manifold 7101, Edelbrock: Cam 7102. & Holly Carburetor: 750CFM 4150/HOL-0-4779C Kurt Kaufman 805 300-2147 kkaufman@adelphia.net



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- Movie reviews
- Organized Club information
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## 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? Find your Counselor

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



**Beverly Haro**  
Member Services Counselor

Aging, Department of Community Development Department DWP Admin. DWP Financial Services Executive DWP Marketing and Customer Service DWP Water Services Employee Relations Board Environmental Affairs, Department of Fire Department Library Department Neighborhood Empowerment, Department of Pensions, Department of Fire & Police Personnel Department Transportation, Department of Street Services, Bureau of Zoo Department, Los Angeles



**Arlene Herrero**  
Member Services Counselor

Building and Safety, Department of DWP Energy Services DWP Water Services (Aqueduct So. District) Engineering, Bureau of General Services, Department of Harbor Department Information Technology Agency Police Department Retirement System, City Employees' Sanitation, Bureau of



**Liz Montes**  
Member Services Counselor

Accounting, Bureau of (Formerly) Animal Regulation, Department of Airports, Los Angeles World Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the City Administrative Officer City Attorney City Clerk Coliseum, Los Angeles Memorial Community 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 Integrated Support Services El Pueblo De Los Angeles Finance, Office of Housing Department Management/Employee Services, Mayor, Office of the Planning, City Recreation and Parks, Department of Street Lighting, Bureau of



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Summy Lam  
IT Business Analyst



Sara Fama  
I.T. Coordinator



Lupe Medina  
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Michelle Moreno  
Administrative Assistant



Howard Pompel  
Member Services Counselor



Angel Gomez  
Member Services Manager

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

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