

Buy Tickets Online!

Easy, fast...
and with that great
Club discount.

See pages 62-63.

SERVING OVER 17,000
CITY AND DWP EMPLOYEES

City Depts. Drive Auto Show Buzz

■ City departments work together to produce the huge and successful L.A. Auto Show.

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor, and Tom Fields, Facilities Services Superintendent I, Los Angeles Convention Center

Photos by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

CONVENTION CTR. — Each year the Los Angeles Convention Center hosts hundreds of events and meetings. Teams of City employees work together to provide clientele with a "World Class Facility" setting, coupled with "World Class Service."

From mid-December through mid-January, the Convention Center team worked around the clock to meet the needs of one of its premier clients, the Greater Los Angeles Auto Show.



See Auto Show, Page 6

Goldberg Is New Director Of Planning

■ Veteran planner Gail Goldberg comes from San Diego, where she installed "City of Villages" strategy.

PLANNING — Gail Goldberg, the Director of Planning for the City of San Diego, has been named as the new Planning Director for Los Angeles to lead the City through a period of expected growth.

The announcement was made Jan. 9 by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.

"Ms. Goldberg shares my vision to make Los Angeles the Venice of the 21st Century," the mayor said. "She has the passion and the drive to make our planning department the best in the country."

The previous director, Con Howe, retired last year, and Interim Director Mark Winogrand was hired in September of last year.



Gail Goldberg, Planning Director

See New Planning Director, Page 46



Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Director Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller (right) and Programs Director Larry Fukuhara welcome visitors to the San Pedro facility.

Rec & Park's Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is bigger and better than ever.

After a recent expansion of its building and programs, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is one of the City's gems. In this month's *Alive!*, tour the new expansion, read an interview with Director Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller, and meet the staff!

Get all the details with *Alive!*'s in-depth look at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, beginning on page 7.



City Employees Club of Los Angeles
350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700
Los Angeles, CA 90071

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #30391
Los Angeles, CA

Providing more than

\$2 Billion

in insurance coverage for its members.

City Employees Club of Los Angeles: *Serving the City for 77 years*

Alive!

February 2006 • Volume 5 – No. 2

is published monthly by:
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700
 Los Angeles, CA 90071
 Telephone: (800) 464-0452

John Hawkins and Robert Larios, *MANAGING EDITORS*
 John Burnes, *EDITOR*

JJLA Associates, *DESIGN AND PRODUCTION*

Alive! is the official publication of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071. Postage paid at Los Angeles, California. CONTACT US: alive@cityemployeesclub.com SUBSCRIPTION RATES: *Alive!* is included with membership in the City Employees Club of Los Angeles. INQUIRIES: alive@cityemployeesclub.com, or (213) 620-0388. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

Alive! does not accept advertising from persons or organizations believed to be unreliable or financially irresponsible. *Alive!* is not responsible, however, for the performance of advertisers, the delivery or quality of their merchandise or services, or the legality of any particular program. Before making any purchasing decision, we recommend you consult additional sources as needed. Please contact the Club if you have any bad experiences with an advertiser. LACEA management reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to refuse any advertisement.

THE CLUB'S BOARD

Michael P. Biagi, *Chairperson*
 Chief, Landside Operations, Los Angeles World Airports

Regner Globus, *Vice Chairperson*
 Property Manager, Los Angeles World Airports

David Muraoka, *Secretary/Treasurer*
 Principal Detention Officer, Van Nuys Jail

Robyn L. Barnes
 Senior Management Analyst,
 Fire and Police Pension System

Michael B. Leighton
 Director of Publishing Services, Gen. Services

Rita Robinson
 Director
 Bureau of Sanitation, Public Works

Maria G. Romasanta
 Executive Assistant, DWP

INSURANCE SERVICES BOARD

Joannie Mukai
 Harbor Department

Rose Hyland
 Office of the Controller, Retired

Andrew Virzi, Jr.
 Assistant Controller, DWP

Marilyn McGuire-Holly
 Public Works: Bureau of Sanitation, Retired

Numbers YOU CAN USE

City Employees Club of Los Angeles	(800) 464-0452	DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1712
City Employees Club of Los Angeles FAX	(213) 620-0398	Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
City Employees Deferred Compensation	(213) 978-1636	Fire and Police Pension System	(213) 978-4545
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-1655	Local 347	(213) 482-6660
City Employees Retirement System	(213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328	L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	(800) 773-2489
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480	Los Angeles Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
City Personnel Office	(213) 847-9240	Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340	Los Angeles Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593	Los Angeles Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
DWP Credit Union	(213) 580-1690 or (800) 300-9728	Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
DWP Employees Assn.	(213) 367-3146	Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association	(888)288-5073
DWP Health Plan & Medicare	(800) 831-4778	Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc.	(213) 255-9082
DWP Information	(213) 367-4211	Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
DWP Intake Magazine	(213) 367-1361	Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
DWP Paymaster	(213) 367-1106	Worker Compensation	(213) 847-9405
DWP Personnel	(213) 367-1934		



City Employees Club of Los Angeles

- Discount Tickets & Group Insurance Products.
- Protect your family, And have fun doing it.

Join the Club!
www.cityemployeesclub.com
800-464-0452

Monthly Update - Club Life Insurance Claims Paid

Status	Sex	Age	Cause of Death	Amount Paid
Active	M	39	Cardiorespiratory Failure	\$296,005.64
Active	M	55	Cancer	\$140,000.00
Active	M	70	Cardiopulmonary Arrest	\$67,413.01
Active	F	49	Cancer	\$55,207.94
Active	M	49	Cancer	\$55,171.78
Active	F	59	Pulmonary Embolia	\$76,861.56
Active	M	58	Cancer	\$41,825.58
			TOTAL	\$732,485.51
Retired	M	64	Cancer	\$15,046.85
Retired	M	68	Cancer - Colon	\$15,229.30
			TOTAL	\$30,276.15

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD
 WORLD'S LARGEST MOVIE STUDIO AND THEME PARK™

GET INTO BLOCKBUSTER THRILLS!

\$33* ONLY GENERAL ADMISSION
Regular General Admission \$35 (Under 10" \$25)

\$67* ONLY FRONT OF LINE PASS
Front of Line Pass to ALL Attractions + Priority Seating at ALL Shows. Regular priced Front of Line Pass \$55

\$53** ONLY ANNUAL PASS
Regular Annual Pass \$55

For Tickets & Information Contact:
THE TICKET GUY (888) 777-1744

* A Message From the CEO *

Valentine: Sweet In Any Language

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

Hello members!



I've made things real easy for you this Valentine's Day. Simply memorize one or two of the phrases below and use them indiscriminately on your loved ones. Not only will you be a hit this Valentine season, but you'll get valuable points towards being known as the ultimate romantic.

I also had our awesome *Alive!* design team, JJLA and Associates, put a special border around them so you can cut it out and stick it in your wallet or purse ... or, hey, put it on the fridge and watch the sparks fly. And if you e-mail me all the details on what your loved one did when you recited one of the phrases, and I'll send you *two* free movie tickets of your choice. My e-mail address is below, so there's no excuse. I'll give you *four* tickets if you try it on the Mayor!



"You are beautiful"

- Spanish:** "Eres hermosa" (air-ace er-mo-sa)
- Portuguese:** "Voce e bonita" (vo-say eh boo-nee-ta)
- French:** "Vous etes belle" (voo zayt bel)
- Italian:** "Siete bella" (see-ay-tay beh-la)
- German:** "Sie sind schon" (zee zint shurn)

This month I want to give special thanks to:

Fire Marshal Jimmy Hill, for joining the *Alive!* family with his new Safety Column (see page 29).

Susanne Lawrenz-Miller of Rec and Parks' Cabrillo Aquarium, for devoting her valuable time to *Alive!* (see the front page story).

Marie Lemelle for going above and beyond the call of duty by providing the wonderful stories, pictures and information highlighting Black History Month (see pages 20 – 22 & 56), and other stories.

And lastly, my Valentines **Kelley, Hannah and Yvonne Hawkins** (wife, daughter and mom), for making my life so complete.

Until next month,

-John

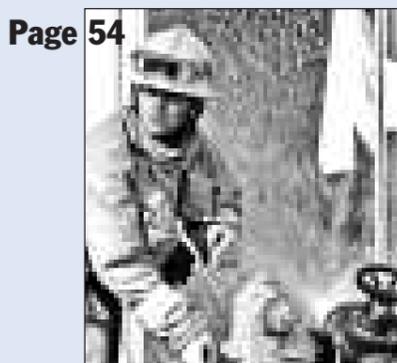
jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com



Page 20



Page 30



Page 54

Features

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

Cover Story:

1 Sea-ing Is Believing

With a new expansion and a wide variety of programs, Rec and Parks' Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is sailing into its bright future.

1 Auto Show Excellence

The Greater L.A. Auto Show, perhaps the country's most important auto show, would not be possible without the cooperation of City departments.

1 New Planning Director

Gail Goldberg is hired out of San Diego to become the City's new Planning Director.

4 Club Insurance

Are you protecting your family? Find out about all the Club's excellent (and affordable) insurance programs on this reference page.

20 Black History Month

The Water and Power African American Association plans a big celebration in honor of Black History Month.

30 Holiday Wrap-up, Part 2

Alive! covers the rest of the City's holiday parties that took place after our January deadline.

54 Firefighters in Training

Fire Dept. shows its mettle during media event aimed at recruitment.

Other Stories:

- City Council - Herb Wesson Sworn In 17
- Police Dept. - Accepting Some 911 Calls from Cells 18
- WPAAA Helps Homeless 21
- WPAAA Announces Scholarship Recipients 22
- Cultural Affairs - Pan African Film Festival 22
- Fire Dept. - Ground Broken For New Station 23
- Personnel - Jurutha Brown Retires 24
- Fire & Police Dept. Raise Money to Fight Cancer . . . 29
- Fire Dept. - Winter Indoor Safety Tips 29
- Airports - Says Goodbye to Sgt. Leonard Valentine . . 44
- LAFD Promotes Steve Wieser to Inspector I 46
- DWP - Subject of Disney Film has City Connection . . 56

Holiday Wrap-up

- Harbor Employees Club Hosts Holiday Party 30
- Rec and Parks Metro Region Hosts Holiday Breakfast . . . 31
- Public Works - Street Lighting Enjoys Holidays 32
- Harbor Hosts Annual Holiday Breakfast 33
- DWP - Holiday Breakfast for Staff, Retirees and Families . 34
- LAPD Throws Party for DAP 35
- Police Dept. - Bring Holiday Cheer to Children 35
- LAPD Christmas Toy Giveaway and Concert 36
- Public Works - West Valley Throws Holiday Party . . . 38
- DWP - Customer Call Center Celebrates 40

Sections and Columns:

The Best Years

- For Retirees Column 25
- Adventures With Hal 26
- Retirees on the Move 27
- Retiree Question of the Month 27
- Crossword Puzzle 28

Entertainment

- Who's Got the Popcorn 58
- Movie and Book Reviews 59

Columns

- From the CEO 3
- Letters 5
- Question of the Month 5
- Tuned In 17
- History Comes *Alive!* 19
- Events 411 42
- Working Matters 43
- The Travel Club 48
- Alive!* Around the World 50
- Cooking With the Club 57
- Club Groups 60
- Member Bulletin Board 60

Contests

- John's Picture Perfect 49
- Where in LA? 50
- Kids' Coloring Contest 51
- Entertainment Trivia 58

Life's Important Moments 52

Classifieds 61

Ticket and Gift Order Form 62

Find Your Counselor/Representative Back Cover

Club Insurance

Sign up today!
(800) 464-0452

Safeguarding You and Your Family

■ **Club packages are the affordable way to ensure your peace of mind.**

Since 1927, City employees have depended on the Club to protect their loved ones. In fact, the Club was founded by City employees just like you, for that very purpose.

Are you protecting you and your loved ones? On this page, you will find descriptions of the packages offered by the Club. Get piece of mind — talk to your Club Counselor, or call (800) 464-0452.

Claims

This chart demonstrate the funds paid by the Club to policyholders in the last month. You can count on the Club to protect you and your family.

Club Life Insurance Claims paid in December:	\$762,761
Club Life Insurance Claims paid year to date:	\$3,420,832
Club Long Term Disability Claims paid in December:	\$125,051
Club Long Term Disability Claims paid Year to Date:	\$1,434,873

Comfort in Difficult Times



Leo Buscaglia's *The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*, which the Club distributes to those surviving the death of a loved one.

■ **As part of its outreach to Club Members in times of personal loss, the Club distributes a touching book, *The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*.**

THE CLUB — It's easy to do the right thing during the good times. But it's how you handle the difficult times that can sometimes make all the difference.

Cecilia Talbot, the Club's benefits administrator, faces that challenge every day. And turns a difficult challenge into a positive experience.

Cecilia often deals with the beneficiary and/or family after a Club policyholder has died. In addition to her strong managerial skills — making sure paperwork is completed and processed efficiently, and communications with those affected, Cecilia adds other critical skills:

"I always listen and sometimes cry," she explains. "It's part of being human."

She keeps those affected apprised of the status of the death payment all along the way in the gentlest, but most efficient, manner possible.

And at the end, with the beneficiary check, comes one of her nicest touches of all: the delivery of a simple but beautiful book: Leo Buscaglia's *The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*.

"It's a warm, wonderfully wise and strikingly simple story about a leaf named Freddie," she explains. "How Freddie and his companion leaves change with the passing seasons, finally falling to the ground with winter's snow, is an inspiring allegory illustrating the delicate balance between life and death."

"Both children and adults have been deeply touched by this inspiring, thought-provoking treatment of so sensitive a facet of true life."

Since 1993, she has been sending the book to those affected by death. The Club distributes more than 80 copies of the book each year.

Here are just a few thank-you's she has received for her generosity:

"[You have been] very efficient and helpful. I always received a call back, and you sent your sincere condolences on my dear mother's death. I also received a book about Freddie the Leaf and the changing seasons, which somehow soothed me." —Deborah J. Carbone.

"You made things so easy. There were no delays. You made me very comfortable. I really enjoyed the book you sent me. It was so helpful. I would recommend you to anyone. Thank you again for your kindness. Everyone I came in contact with was just wonderful. Praise to you and your staff."—Maggie L. Taylor

"Saying goodbye to one of our Club members might be the hardest thing we do at the Club," Cecilia says, "but it's also the most important."

"Our Club members and their families and friends deserve nothing less."



Cecilia Talbot, Club's Claims Administrator

Insurance Products From the Club

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



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

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

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



Short Term Disability Insurance
Ensure an income stream until you can get back on your feet.

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

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

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

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

Your Counselor Can Help

Your Club Counselor will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the Club's insurance packages. Look on the back page to find out which Counselor represents your department ...or call (800) 464-0452.



Beverly Haro



Arlene Herrero



Liz Montes



Jessica Segura

LETTERS

To the Editor

This Retiree Member Enjoys Her Check Refund at Holidays

Thank you so much for the refund check that came in time for Christmas. This is the first check since I retired in 1998. See it pays to inquire (in numbers), smile.

— H. Reese, Retired (DWP)

Club Staff Must Work Hard Covering the Holiday Parties

It's great to see so many holiday parties. It seems to me that City employees are having a great time working together. I'd like to know how the Alive! staff was able to take so many photos. They must have a few dozen reporters and photographers working 24 hours a day.

My thanks to you all for letting me enter the world of the City employee that I adored during my 35 years of service with the DOT. Although I have retired from service and have been happily retired for 15 years, I feel as though I'm still somehow connected with the City of Los Angeles. It's a wonderful feeling. Thank you.

— Henry Tobbs, Retired (Transportation)

The holiday section (which concludes this month) was produced by the Club's staff of four Counselors, plus the CEO, the Director of Communications and Marketing, the Member Services Manager, the Events Guru, the Tech Guru, Club Members who sent in their own contributions, and others. But the short answer is, we do it because we love it, even if it calls for extra dedication. (Now we know how much work Santa performs every year ... and he's just one guy!) Thanks for your recognition. — Ed.

Channel 35 Column: Good Addition to Alive! Lineup

I've enjoyed the regular columns like "Working Matters" by Jackie David, "History Comes Alive!" by Hynda Rudd, and "Cooking with the Club" by Robert Larios. But now I am so very excited to learn about the new column "Tuned In" by Tony Ighani. What a fabulous partnership between the award-winning Channel 35 and Alive!, the best newspaper in the City. It makes complete sense! Nice going.

— Reginald Curry, General Services

Club's Office Depot Benefit Is Just One Card Swipe Away

My friend who's a Club member told me about the special Office Depot discount program that is linked to member credit cards, and I have to say that it works! I went with him to Office Depot to see for myself. He picked up a bunch of stuff totaling over \$200, but when he swiped his credit card, it instantly dropped to \$122! We told everyone in our office and even showed the receipt. We are all amazed, and as far as I know, we're all becoming members of the Club so that we can also get the same Office Depot discount.

— Kyle Simmons, Airports

Welcome to the Club, Kyle, and enjoy your Office Depot discount, truly one of the best benefits offered by your Club Membership. For those Club Members wondering how to take advantage of this offer, see the details on the bottom of page two. — Ed.

Adult Coloring Contest Draws Praise From This Club Member

The Alive! Adult Coloring Contest is one of my favorite sections of the newspaper because normally you'd attribute coloring contests to chil-

dren, but it's a real treat to see the artistic abilities of City employees. I was looking at the colors used by the winner of the January contest, Michael Zepeda, and he did a magnificent job. I'm really amazed. I can't get over it.

Please let Mr. Zepeda and the other contestants know that they have outstanding skills.

—Myra Garanda, Club Member

Club Insurance Would Have Helped Him in His Recovery

Sometimes I think we all forget that the City Employees Club is not just the City organization that has the best newspaper for City employees, but the place to go for insurance protection. I know I certainly did because I got hurt and couldn't go to work and was left with very little income to pay the bills. I have some disability insurance, but it only covers for three months and they make me do the claims paperwork on my own. In the state of mind that I am in now, I am not in any condition to fill out dozens of claims forms. Life is tough right now, and all I can think about is why I did not get Long Term Disability insurance from the Club. My colleagues all tell me that the Club runs an operation that is straightforward, and they can be trusted to do what's best for their members. The Club's Claims Department even completes the claims forms for you.

When I get better, I'll be talking to the Club for my insurance need.

— Rick Jamison, Rec and Parks

Retirement Holiday Party Article Almost as Good as Being There

The Retirees Celebrate article by Robert Larios on page 21 of the January issue reeled my husband and I to read it several times. We were unable to attend the RLACEI Christmas Party, but luckily this article about the event brought out the mood of the party, and it seemed as though we didn't miss it, as though we were there in spirit. It was great to see some faces from the days when my husband and I were in the City.

Alive! does a fabulous job of covering our retiree events, and we thank you for not forgetting about us and writing such fun articles for us to read.

— Roy and Carla Hammond, Retired

Club Discount Tickets Are Even Better Through Club Website

Wow, I didn't realize how easy it was to buy discount tickets through your Website. I'm also amazed at how fast they were mailed to me. I ordered them on a Wednesday and got them by Friday, just in the nick of time for a pleasant evening with my wife.

Thanks, Club.

— Michael Homes, DTO

Short Takes

So I hear all of you are having gorgeous weather there in LA! Enjoy it. I'm freezing here in my retiree wonderland.

— Todd Bustamante, Retired (Flagstaff, Ariz.)

I was cleaning out my garage and ended up with a bunch of stuff that I have little need for. Is it okay to send you the descriptions? Can you put them in your classified section, or do I need to pay? Not trying to make much money, but I hate to throw good stuff out. Thanks!

— Michelle Montgomery, Club Member

Sure, Michelle. Send us descriptions and pictures of your items to classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com — Ed.

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

Correction:

In Hynda Rudd's History Comes Alive! column on page 8 of the January issue, the photograph of Herman Silver should have been credited to the Security Pacific Collection of the Los Angeles Public Library.

Alive! regrets the omission and thanks the staff of Carolyn Cole for their continuing assistance.

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 favorite love song?"



"All of Me" by Louis Armstrong.
— Joe Terrence, Heavy Equipment Mechanic, General Services



"And I Love Her" by the Beatles.
— Tim Korcher, Senior Management Analyst, DWP



"Because You Loved Me" by Celine Dion.
— Georgina Grace, Senior Clerk Typist, Fire Department



"Endless Love" by Lionel Ritchie
— Shanna Lee, Forensic Print Specialist, Police Dept.



"Let's Get It On" by the Isley Brothers.
— Sylvia Martin, PSR II, Police Dept.



"She Bangs" by William Hung.
— Dan Basilgo, PSR III, Police Dept.



"I'll Do Anything for Love" by Meatloaf.
— Johanna Ramirez, PSR III, and Dan Basilgo, PSR III, Police Dept.



"More Than Words" by Big Mountain.
— Shiara M. Davila, Public Relations Specialist, Police Dept.
"The Way You Look Tonight" by Frank Sinatra.
— Maria Silva, Sr. Clerk Typist, Police Dept.



Various love songs.
— Delores Youngblood, Forensic Print Specialist, Police Dept.



"Sweet Love" by Anita Baker.
— Margaret Peters, Sr. PSR, Police Dept.



"How Will I Live With You" by LeAnn Rimes.
— Maribel Madariaga, PSR III, Police Dept.



"Besame Mucho" by Lucho Gatica.
"Dedicated to Red."
— Lupe Medina, Administrative Services Rep., The Club

City Depts. Drive Auto Show Success

Auto Show

Continued from Page 1

Show, installing and providing various services including electrical, lighting, phone, data, audio/video, carpentry, customer service, security, painting, mechanical, telecommunications, plumbing, cleaning, food and beverage, and parking support.

The 2006 L.A. Auto Show ran the first two weekends of January.

The show uses the entire 720,000 square feet of the Convention Center's exhibit space. As challenging and labor-intensive as it may be, to accommodate the nearly one million visitors, Convention Center employees carefully prepared and effectively operated the facility for this mega event. The Convention Center's dedicated attention to detail and preparation gave way to comfort and safety to all who moved about through the sea of new and exotic vehicles.

In collaboration to provide excellent service to its clientele, the Convention Center employs City employees on a part time "as needed" basis. Although the great majority of these part-time workers are direct Convention Center employ-

ees, additional assistance comes from other City departments to supplement the work demands beyond normal staffing levels. The result is a well-trained, diversified team working together to promote the City of Los Angeles' "World Class Service."

This year's L.A. Auto Show welcomed part-time employees working specifically as either electricians or in a communications capacity from various City departments including the DWP, Airports, Rec and Parks, Harbor, General Services, ITA and Transportation, among others.

Preparation, setup and the delivery of services for the 2006 L.A. Auto Show was a great success. Hundreds of City employees worked tirelessly in or behind the scenes, proving invaluable support to the operation of the Los Angeles Convention Center.

When quality work teams are complemented with quality leadership and a quality facility, the results are truly "World Class." The Los Angeles Convention Center team continues to be a living testimony to this fact.



Back row: Erik Odom, Communication Electrician, 2 months; and Vincent Orne, Communication Electrician, 4 years. Front: Domingo Martinez, Communication Electrician, 12 years; and Edwin Gomez, Helper, 2 years.



From left: Will Carter, Electrician, 1 year; Ronnie Taylor, Electrician, 30 years; and Edward Verdugo, Sr. Electrician, 37 years.



Ernesto Gallegos, Sign Maker, 11 years.



Marcos Gonzalez, Event Attendant II, 6 months; and Josue Montano, Event Attendant II, 3 years.



John Allen, Building Repair, 2 months.



Tim Stratton, Sr. Mechanic, and Chuck Melby, Mechanical Repair.



Domingo Martinez, Communication Electrician, 12 years.



From left: Ligaya Banayad, Sr. Clerk Typist, 5 years; Michele Harris, Clerk Typist, 4 years; and Leslie Vernon, Clerk Typist, 3 years.



Don Norton, Sr. Painter, 3 years.



Jorge Posada, Janitor, 10 years.



Mike Boynton, Plumber Helper, 20 years; and Thomas Turner, Plumber, 5 years.



Herbert Romero, Event Attendant, 24 years.



Troy Crawford, Electrician.



From left: Guadalupe Mendoza, Event Attendant, 21 years; Antonio Lopez, Event Attendant, 12 years; and Leopoldo Hernandez, Event Supervisor II, 25 years.



From left: Raul Villanueva, M&C Helper, 6 years; Ken Nagle, Carpenter, 4 weeks; and John Allen, Building Repair, 2 months.



Tim Stratton and Chuck Melby are hard at work.



Lery Plunmer, Building Repair, 6 years.



Greg Cordell, Sr. Custodian, 1 year.



Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

Department
of the Month

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium: Dedicated to the City's Extensive Marine Life

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is an educational, recreational and research facility devoted to encouraging active public participation to promote knowledge and conservation of the marine life of Southern California.

Celebrating more than 60 years of marine education, the aquarium is a facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks and is located on the shore at Cabrillo Beach in San Pedro between

Point Fermin and the Port of Los Angeles. The tidepools of the Point Fermin Marine Life Refuge, a salt marsh, fishing pier, sandy beaches and fossil rich cliffs are all within accessible walking distance from the aquarium.

The aquarium is free but has a suggested admission donation of \$5 for adults and \$1 for children and is open to the public from noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and on weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Car beach parking is free weekdays from Nov. 1 to Feb. 28 and \$7 on weekends and weekdays from March 1 to Oct. 31. Groups must make reservations. **Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is at 3720 Stephen White Dr., San Pedro, CA 90731.**



The expansion of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium opened in October 2004.

Did You Know?

In the early 1930s, Los Angeles City Lifeguards organized a collection of local sea life collected by beach-goers on a table at Venice Beach. The collection was moved temporarily to a City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks building and then moved permanently to the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse in 1935. Cabrillo Marine Aquarium originated as a museum.

Cabrillo Marine Museum continued to accumulate collections of local and foreign marine and non-marine objects. From the 1940s through the early 1970s, maritime exhibits and active educational programs for schools and the public were developed.

During the 1950s and 1960s, local marine phenomena, such as grunion fish spawning on the beach and migrating gray whales, were incorporated into unique and highly popular programs that continue to this day.

In the early 1970s, the facility became overcrowded with exhibits and the building structure was aging. A new facility was designed by renowned architect Frank Gehry to expand upon the success of the original museum. The new museum/aquarium opened to the public in 1981.

Also in the early 1970s, CMA, together with

the American Cetacean Society, originated whale-watching for schools and the public on a large scale.

After sitting dormant for many years, the community's treasured and historical bathhouse underwent renovations beginning in summer 2000. In October 2002, the beautifully restored Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse opened to the public.

In the late 1990s, in an effort to expand its ability to provide the community and visitors with even more up-close-and-personal hands-on learning experiences, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium embarked on an ambitious expansion plan and capital campaign. The expansion, which nearly doubled the size of the facility, opened to the public in October 2004.

Cabrillo Marine Museum was instrumental in the founding of the American Cetacean Society, the oldest whale conservation organization in the United States.

Volunteers contribute more than 35,000 hours annually in supporting Cabrillo Marine Aquarium's tours, gift shop, programs, special events, office and administrative support and serving as trained whale-watching naturalists.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium has more than 500 active volunteers.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is within easy

walking distance of ocean and harbor beaches, the rocky shore Point Fermin Marine Life Refuge, the manmade Salinas de San Pedro coastal wetland, the Cabrillo Beach federal fishing pier, and fossil-rich cliffs, making it an ideal location for education about Southern California coastal habitats and urban marine environmental issues. Also, CMA was instrumental in getting the state to set Point Fermin aside as a refuge.

The Aquatic Nursery allows Cabrillo Marine Aquarium's staff and volunteer scientists to expand their work in the area of aquaculture. Visitors can watch the successful culturing techniques that have reproduced grunion, black jellyfish, moon jellyfish and bright orange garibaldi, the designated California state marine fish.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is currently experimenting with growing the rare black jellyfish. Recorded sightings of these jellyfish have only occurred on four occasions in 1926, 1965, 1989 and most recently in summer 1999, when adult medusa drifted into the Los Angeles Harbor.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium has more than 160 different species of Southern California marine life on display, the largest collection in the world.

Exhibit animals eat a variety of food includ-

ing shrimp, plankton, crabs, anchovies, sardines, Purina gel fish mix, sea urchins, seaweed and mussels.

Despite its relatively small size and staff, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium serves more than 350,000 people a year. This includes (numbers are rounded and reflect an average of the past six years):

165,000: General visitors

60,000: Free exhibit and beach tours for school children

45,000: Festivals and other special events and activities

30,000: Outreach program with "Octobus" vans for school children

29,000: Marine biology workshops for school children and adults

25,000: Whale-watching boat trips and lectures for schools and families

10,000: Unique late-night grunion programs for families

500+: Trained adult and junior volunteers and interns.



Department of the Month

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium



Cabrillo Marine Aquarium main entrance.

Verna Diaz; Leslie Paolett, Museum Guide, 1 year; and Melanie Vartabedian, Educator, 1 year.

Lisa Bartley, Aquarist, 5.5 years.

Margo Kennedy, Shirley Hermosillo and Karmin Elizondo, Secretary, 35.5 years.

Putting the Sea on Display

■ In an extensive *Alive!* interview, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Director Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller talks about the facility's educational outreach, its bright future, and her love of the science of the sea.

On Jan. 12, Club CEO John Hawkins and *Alive!* Editor John Burnes sat down with Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller, Director of the City's Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, to talk about the facility's history, its present and its exciting future. She also took John Hawkins and John Burnes on a comprehensive tour of the facility.

John H.: Thanks for inviting us down today to interview you. *Alive!* is all about spreading the good news of the City, and bringing the different departments together. You're down here in San Pedro.

Susanne: Yeah, and that is a problem. We're 26 miles from downtown, and the other end of the City is way off in San Fernando. We serve the entire region, and yet, even within the City I don't know how many people actually know about us.

John H.: The Griffith Observatory's no different. People don't know that the Observatory is part of Rec and Parks. And the same with your Aquarium.

Susanne: They generally know the Observatory, though, because it sits up on a hill.

John H.: Very few people know that the person running the Observatory and its staff are actually City employees. The Aquarium is an interesting place. And we want to draw a light on that, especially since it's a City entity.

Susanne: Right.

History

John H.: When did you start working here at Cabrillo?

Susanne: About a year after I finished my PhD.

John H.: Wow!

Susanne: There was a job opening at the Cabrillo Marine Museum, when it was still located in the Bath House. They had plans to build a new facility, so they were looking for a biologist to make sure the information in the exhibits was right, and to help teach biology to the volunteers, and get a lab set up, and so that's what I was hired for. And then in fairly short order, I found myself literally kind of in charge of the whole project [laughs], because there was a changeover in the staffing. John Olguin had been the director for many years. Much of the history of Cabrillo Marine Museum is tied up with John Olguin. He was a lifeguard captain at Cabrillo Beach after the war, and he became very involved with the Museum. Then in the early '50s he was appointed as director of the Museum.

John H.: I heard it was a lifeguard's collection that started all this.

Susanne: Not literally John's collection. There was another lifeguard up at Venice Beach, a lifeguard named Bob Foster, who first started this collection of stuff that he originally had on a card table. And in the '30s, when John Olguin was still a teenager, the Department of Parks and Playgrounds, as it was called, took this collection and shortly afterwards brought it down to Cabrillo Bath House, which was still relatively new, but wasn't really being used for its original purpose.

John H.: What was its original purpose?

Susanne: It was going to be a place where people could come and rent towels, and that kind of stuff.

John H.: The public?

Susanne: Yeah, at that time there was still a Red Car line going down to this area. But by the time the Bath House was built, cars had become more prevalent, and so there was

not so much need for the Bath House. So they moved this collection of beach artifacts into the museum. Then they hired a retired dentist who built up the collections and made it into a real museum. And in addition to the stuff off the beach, they got collections from Galapagos Island, and all sorts of other things.

“We want people to get acquainted with their own backyard, and to get enough of an appreciation of it so that they'll care, and then help make decisions in their own daily lives, or in the way that they vote, or whatever, to try to make sure that this great environment is preserved.”

A Gehry Original

John H.: So what year did you start here?

Susanne: I started in 1974. And at that point, they had plans to build a new museum right next to the old one on the Outer Beach, and they broke ground. About two weeks later I showed up, and almost the first thing I ran into was people protesting the construction. As soon as the City put up the construction fence, some people realized that some of their beach space was going to be taken over by a building, and I guess they hadn't paid attention to plans in the papers. And so

there was this controversy there for a few months, and the department ended up scrapping those plans and decided to build a building here, and started out with a new architect. So the architect turned out to be ... Frank Gehry! [laughs] At that time he was not as well known.

John H.: You're kidding! He designed the museum?

Susanne: He designed the [original] place. I worked with Frank Gehry, which was a great experience. He'd done a number of projects in LA, but he wasn't so—famous. He said people in other parts of the world knew him; he was more famous there than in LA. That changed eventually.

John H.: Is all the fencing he designed functional in any way?

Susanne: Yeah. It was built for security, and then also something to hang the exhibits from, that kind of thing. At the time, Frank said that too often it had been his experience that he'd design a beautiful building, and then a few months later go back, and found out that they'd put a chain-link fence around it for security, you know? [laughs] So he decided to incorporate the chain-link as a design feature. And so this was kind of the epitome of that phase. After that he didn't do too much of that anymore. You know? But this part of the building [where the interview took place] is brand new. This was designed by Barton Phelps and Associates.

The Mission: Education

John H.: What's the mission of the Aquarium, and has it changed in the last 70 years?

Susanne: When I started working here, we did spend some time to define the mission of the Aquarium because it changed from when we went from the Museum to our new building. We decided that it would be educating the people, especially of the Los Angeles area about their own backyard, the marine life right here in Southern California. The Cabrillo Museum had maritime exhibits, and it had a lot of marine life, not only locally but from all parts of the world. But its big strength was the educational programs for schoolchildren, and some of the other educational programs they had developed, all of which really



Steve Vogel, Curator, 20 years.

Kenn Tucker, Graphic Artist, 1 year.

A volunteer gives a group of students a tour of the Aquarium.

Kelly Sayce, Special Events Coordinator.

Students who visit the Aquarium sent thank-you letters to the staff.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

Department of the Month



From left: Jim Depompei, Educator, 1.5 years; Melanie Vartabedian, Educator, 1 year; and Carl Carranza, Educator, 3 months.

Chris Okamoto, Aquarist, 15 years.

Ed Mastro, Exhibit Curator, 22 years.

Gavin Obayashi, Outreach Instructor, 1 year; and Chris Brodie, Outreach Manager, 19 years.

evolved around local marine life. So the kids would come down here. They'd get to see the Museum, but they also would get a lot of outdoor education.

And Cabrillo Museum also had really become a pioneer in whale watching. They started up whale watching programs for schools.

John H.: I went to one in fifth grade.

Susanne: Cabrillo Museum helped found the American Cetacean Society, and the two of them have been partners all these years with the whale watch program that takes place every winter.

John H.: What is cetacean?

Susanne: Cetaceans are whales and dolphins. They are mammals, but they're mammals that have returned to the sea, and adapted to the sea so much that they're rather fish-

like in appearance. For instance, sea lions have also readapted to the sea, but they still have actual rear legs. Whereas whales and dolphins have tails. They've lost their legs.

John H.: So they made a full retreat.

Susanne: Yeah, and they've had other changes, such as what used to be the nose migrated onto the top of the head, and it's the blowhole. So they're mammals that have highly adapted to the ocean.

John H.: As a common person, I never think

about that stuff. I knew they were mammals, but...

Susanne: Uh-huh. So the mission of Cabrillo Museum – later we changed the name to Aquarium – is to educate and get people here involved with local marine life. It was built on the great strength of Cabrillo Marine Museum, which was to present all these wonderful educational programs. In addition to the school programs and the whale watch programs, Cabrillo Museum was already internationally famous for its grunion program. Cabrillo Beach is where grunion come up on the shore. They're very predictable where you'll find them. And so back in the '50s, John Olguin built this program on that. And it's really very remarkable. Here in the middle of this big urban area, you've got all these little fish that come right out of the water to lay their eggs. [laughs]

John H.: The Grunion run. We run notices of the your grunion programs in *Alive!*

Susanne: So our mission is education, recreation and research. And conservation. We're very conservation oriented here. We're bringing people of the Greater Los Angeles area down to the ocean, giving them a first-hand look at some of the real wonders of the marine life. People are already fairly familiar with a few things, but there's an awful lot of stuff that just at low tide you can easily go see here that most people really are not familiar with at all. There're really wonderful, colorful, beautiful animals.

I guess another really important thing about Cabrillo is that it was always John Olguin's philosophy, and it's all of our philosophy, that we start educating at the very earliest age. So we have programs for preschool children. We're not trying to drum anything into their heads necessarily, we just want them to see and observe and experience. That's critical, because people who have not had any kind of exposure to living things, a diversity of living things fairly early on, it's hard to relate to those things and to care about them later.

Location, Location

John H.: How many aquariums do you know of that actually have tide pools in their vicinity?

Susanne: Not that many. Monterey Bay Aquarium is situated right on the rocks, so some of it is you can look down into tide pool areas from the balconies.

John H.: But nothing like this.

Susanne: Nothing quite like this. This particular location is really wonderful. We're right here on the edge of the Los Angeles Harbor, so we've got this vast industrial complex here. We've got the inner beach, which is protected by the Los Angeles breakwater, so it's a protected sand beach environment. The harbor has built a manmade salt marsh right here as an environmental mitigation project. So we've got that just a few feet away from us. And then on the other side here we have the open ocean beach, which

Continued on next page...



About Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller Director, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

Education:

University of California, Berkeley (undergraduate); University of Washington (Master's degree and doctorate)

Educational emphasis:

Intertidal Ecology, Biomechanics of animals that live in surf-swept environments

Why marine biology?

"As a young child, I lived in Germany on the North Sea, and we would go to the beach. They have this tremendous tidal range there, so at low tide, literally miles of mudflat would be exposed. And I loved just going out there and seeing all the worms and critters and stuff like that."

Hometown:

Pacifica, Calif. (early years in Germany)

Marital status:

Married (Alan Miller, professor at Cal State Long Beach); two sons, Luke and David

Parents' influence:

"My family emigrated from Germany and my parents grew up under that whole Nazi era. One of the things that my mother emphasized to me was that, during the Nazi era, there was, among other things, this strong anti-intellectualism. She felt that in Germany there was this big division between the educated elite and the rest of the people, and that that's a really dangerous thing. When we came to the United States, one of the things she admired about like American publications was that you could find books on all kinds of science, that were written for lay people. She thought that was a really good thing and extremely important. That always kind of stuck with me, so, even when I was in graduate school, I liked doing research but somehow that wasn't enough for me. What's really important is that all this wonderful stuff that we love be made available to everybody in a way that everybody can understand. That's really what made me take a job like this and stick with it for such a long time. We can bridge a gap."

Favorite philosophy:

"Everybody is capable of a great deal more understanding of things than people give them credit for. I saw a quote in a science magazine that was a professor's advice to a grad student: 'If you can't explain your research to your grandmother, then you don't really know what you're doing.'"

Favorite candy:

Dark chocolate.

Favorite food:

"I have very broad tastes."

Favorite music:

Blues and Classical.

Best advice she ever got:

"My mother told me be careful to always let children know what's going on and to tell the truth, because they can sense if there's something wrong. If they're left in the dark it can be very bad for them. Children from the earliest age, they're already full individuals and you need to treat them with respect."

Heroes:

"Gandhi. And Frank Gehry in a way, too, yeah. Frank Gehry is one of the most extraordinary people I've run across."

Her opinion on

SpongeBob SquarePants:

"It's too noisy for me [laughs]."



Department of the Month

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium



Alex Long.

Visitors admire the various exhibits.

Marisol Ramos, Librarian, 1 year.

Linda Chilton, Education Specialist, 14 years.

Guillermo Reza, Sr. Gardener, 8 years.

February Events and Activities at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

Native Garden Workday/Beach Cleanup

On the first Saturday of each month, join the Education staff and volunteers in maintaining the Cabrillo Native Garden by weeding and planting while you learn more about its plant and animal inhabitants. Also, join others in a beach cleanup. Registration is not required; however, groups are asked to call ahead. Meet by the classroom.

Sat., Feb. 4
8:30-10 a.m.
Fee: Free

Sunday Story Studio

Discover the wonders of the ocean through literature; join staff and volunteers in reading stories, poems, doing a puppet show, singing a song and more.

All ages
Sun., Feb. 12
2-3 p.m.
Fee: Free

Weekend Tidepool Walk

CMA's Education staff conducts tours of the Point Fermin Marine Life Refuge. Attend an informative slide show in the John M. Olguin Auditorium, then come along on the naturalist-led ramble on the rocks to see animals in their natural habitat. Outdoor clothing and sneakers advised. Reservations required for groups. * On select dates tidepool walk presentations are offered in Spanish. Young children must be accompanied by an adult.

Sat., Feb. 11, 1:30 - 3 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 12, 2 - 3:30 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 25, 12:30 - 2 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 26, 1 - 2:30 p.m.
FEE \$1 person. Reservations required for groups

*Weekend Tidepool Walk in Spanish

Sat., Feb. 11
2 - 3:30 p.m.
See Weekend Tidepool Walks
Fee: \$1 per person. Reservations required for groups

Complete Whalewatch

Join Larry Fukuhara, CMA Programs Director, for an informational and fun slide presentation in the John M. Olguin Auditorium. Then begin your adventure on a local whale watching vessel in search of gray whales, other marine mammals and sea life. The trip returns to the dock by 2 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 26, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Fee: \$18

CMA Field Research: Peninsula Shorewatch High school thru adult

Participate in an annual study of seashore animal populations on the Palos Verdes Peninsula begun in 1975 as a joint project of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and California State University, Long Beach. The class consists of an introductory lecture covering the animals and their habitats, the results to date of the research project and the methods used in gathering data. Then during low tide, participants are invited to help gather new data at tow locations. Enrollment is limited. Instructor: CMA Director, Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller.

Sat., Feb. 25, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 26, 12:30 - 3:30 p.m.
Fee: \$12

Key to the Sea Educator Workshop Educators

This free full-day educator workshop provides the materials and curriculum for K - fifth-grade teachers who want to bring their class to the Key to the Sea Program. For more information, check Key to the Sea at www.healthebay.org.

Sat., Feb. 4, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Fee: Free.



Bobbie Hedges, Volunteer, with students.

Continued from previous page...

We have a laboratory program so kids can come in and use microscopes and do all sorts of things. Right down below us, we have a big aquatic research lab, where we have students and adult volunteers who can get involved in actually doing research on marine organisms. We're raising all kinds of different animals through their early life stages. And a lot of that is brand new original research.

So it's turned into a real opportunity for students who just want to get some experience. And some of them are getting their experience from a very early age, because we work with all age groups. It's just a great place to get involved and get started, and advance to great things!

So education is number one with us. We regard our primary audience the people who live in the Greater LA area. Certainly Los Angeles City residents would be number one for us, but we deal with all the school districts. We get actually visitors from all over the world. But our primary mission is to do as much as we can to get people who live in Los Angeles to learn more about the ocean environment that's right here, and then what they can do to make sure that it remains healthy or gets restored to a healthier state. We're a huge, urban environment here, and we have a tremendous impact on the ocean environment, much of it negative. There are things that can be done to make sure that it gets better, or at least doesn't get worse. [laughs] So that's really the purpose. We want people to get acquainted with their own backyard, and to get enough of an appreciation of it so that they'll care, and then help make decisions in their own daily lives, or in the way that they vote, or whatever, to try to make sure that this great environment is preserved.

Toward a Cleaner Sea

John H.: One of the issues down here in San Pedro and Wilmington and in the Port is pollution. Are you involved in any of that?

Susanne: Oh, yeah, a whole lot. Some of our education staff is engaged in weekly monitoring of water quality. We have volunteers involved in that. We also do monitoring of the animal and plant life that's in the salt marsh and in the tide pool areas. We're working with a number of different agencies on that.

John H.: City agencies?

Susanne: City agencies and others. Like the Bureau of Sanitation. With the state and with the regional water quality board. With the Port, definitely. We're pretty closely allied with the Port, because they have a strong environmental division that, since the late '50s, has done a tremendous amount to improve the water quality within the harbor,

which is no mean feat considering all the industrial stuff going on. They're really one of the top ports in the world in terms of environmental controls. They have continual challenges. They're always under fire for one thing or another. The big thing has been air pollution.

It's a big challenge, the water quality. There used to be dead zones within the Port. You know, areas where literally nothing could grow. That doesn't happen anymore. It's pretty remarkable. And so yes, we definitely work with them.

And the Inner Cabrillo Beach is one of the problem areas. Despite all these various

"There is a tremendous number of people in the City at all levels who I respect highly. I'm proud of working for the City."

efforts, there are areas there that continually get bad ratings in water quality. Behind the breakwater. The harbor department has been working with others to try to get to the bottom of the problem and to figure out ways of resolving that. And we work with them. We put signs out there to warn people to not feed the birds because birds are one source of the pollution. It always gets me, that seagulls have to be displaced because of pollution problems.

John H.: They were here before we were.

Susanne: I don't think they're really the crux of the problem, but at least we can help by discouraging people from feeding them, and therefore making them congregate in the areas that are the worst pollution problems.

We have a volunteer program, the Sea Rangers. They're trained to spend their time out in the coastal park here, making sure people aren't taking stuff from there. And they also are quite heavily involved in fish contamination education out at the pier, because the Palos Verdes Peninsula, and this area here, are part of an EPA Super Fund site. There's a huge DDT and PCBs contamination problem out there. And some of that gets into the food web, and certain fish are not a good idea to eat, like white croaker. That fishing pier out there is one where you can go fishing without a license, and it's legal. And so a lot of people do come down there and go fishing. For some of them, that may even be their main source of food. But they can get exposed to dangerous levels of DDTs and PCBs, so our program helps to warn them and guide them that "these fish, don't eat those. These are okay," and that kind of thing.

Continued from previous page...

is surf exposed. And then along the cliffs there we've got rocky tide pools. That is the Point Furman Marine Life Refuge, which was another project of the Cabrillo Marine Museum. John Olguin and his friends were able to get the state to declare that area a marine life refuge, and so he could take people out there to enjoy the animals.

John H.: So this is really one-of-a-kind.

Susanne: It really is. The cliffs along here are just chock full of marine fossils. There's a fishing pier out there. There are just all these different kinds of seashore habitats, all in real close walking distance. So it gives us the opportunity to do all kinds of education. Also the sport fishing landing is just a cou-

ple of mile away, so we for many years have been doing all kinds of programs using the sport fishing boats. It's just a hub of marine environmental education, and it's been going on a very large scale really since the early '50s. John Olguin was more of a self-taught marine biologist, but a real people-person. And a great storyteller. He got schools and other people to come down in droves and pulled people off the beach, and turned them into instant volunteers. That's how he started.

In the meantime, we've become much more organized. We have this really wonderful volunteer program - very well organized - and lots of different kinds of programs, in addition to the programs that John started.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

Department of the Month



From left: Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller, Executive Director; Fabiola Villasenor, Office Assistant, 6.5 years; Shirley Hermosillo; Karmin Elizondo, Secretary; and Carla Esquivel, 3.5 years.

Verna Diaz; Leslie Paolett, Museum Guide, 1 year; and Melanie Vartabedian, Educator, 1 year.

The one-year-old Great White Shark exhibit.

Margo Kennedy, Shirley Hermosillo and Karmin Elizondo, Secretary, 35.5 years.

Lisa Bartley, Aquarist, 5.5 years.

Getting the Word Out

John H.: What is the Aquarium's biggest challenge?

Susanne: Interestingly our biggest challenge is not so much with the expansion or the budget ... we got a good increase in our budget, and so we're financially in better shape. We also have a very good non-profit support group, the Friends of Cabrillo Aquarium. Now it's really more publicity, and that's why it's good that you're here.

John H.: Well, good!

Susanne: There are thousands of City employees who will now learn something about the Aquarium. Just getting our name out there. All these years we've had pretty much zero budget for PR. We've got great new facilities, but we need to have more people coming down and taking advantage of them. It's still free. "Here we are! Come and get us!" [laughs]

John H.: What are your biggest events?

Susanne: We have three big family events a year. The Whale Fiesta's the one coming up [in January]. And in April, we have an Earth Day event that [focuses on] environmental education. And in the fall, we have an Autumn Sea Fair.

And then we've got lots of classes for the public. We schedule lots of tide pool walks on weekends whenever there's a low enough tide during the daytime. And we have week-long classes throughout the summer for different age groups. Boat trips ... so lots of things that are open to the general public, as well as school programs.

In Ten Years

John B.: Let's say we came back here in ten years. Will there be anything different? Or will it look the same?

Susanne: That's a question we're going to be asking ourselves pretty soon. We need to get into another round of long-range planning.

And so I can't really say.

We would like to build a north wing. When we were planning [the new expansion], we inevitably had to make some hard decisions, and cut some things out because of mounting costs. We had another wing that was part of the original plan. We just ran out of money. So hopefully we'll have that added. That will give us a nicer gift shop, and another courtyard for children's activities.

And I think we'll have a lot of stuff going on, particularly in the research area here. We've got so many programs that it's hard to imagine adding even more programs here, but the aquatic nursery has so many kids now involved in research projects, that I think that's going to become a bigger and bigger thing. It's very innovative. I don't know of any other aquarium or museum that's doing anything quite like that. We had a smaller lab [for] a 12-year-old who really got interested in abalone, and then was learning to raise abalone, and doing all these original research projects. We have a couple of students now who are undergraduates at Cal State Fullerton. And they're doing research here; right now they're down in Brazil as part of a student exchange program. They're going to be doing some research projects down there. And they're undergraduates. They got some of their early experience here, found some good programs ... and now they're going on to all of these wonderful new opportunities.

The Expansion

John H.: Tell us about this new expansion.

Susanne: We changed our name to [Cabrillo Marine] Aquarium, because we do have a lot of live exhibits in the original facility. It's laid out to expose people to the different kinds of marine habitats here in Southern California, and the typical kinds of organisms that you'd find there. And we have a lot of small tanks, to emphasize a lot of the animals without backbones. There's fish, but there's a huge diversity of animals in the

ocean that are things like worms and snails and sea anemones and jellyfish that are less well-known, but they're really important, and very fascinating once you get to learn a little bit about them. There are interactive exhibits, and a big touch-tank that's very popular. And then we have a teaching laboratory in the older facility also. So that's where we take school classes and also public classes on weekends and in the summer. And there they can work with microscopes

"What's really important is that all this wonderful stuff that we love be made available to everybody in a way that everybody can understand. That's really what made me take a job like this and stick with it for such a long time. We can bridge a gap."

and do all kinds of stuff as well as do field exploration out here. And we have a nice auditorium, too [in the original facility] so we can do presentations for larger groups, 300 people at a time. Some of our grunion programs we may have 3,000 people showing up, and we'll do up to five different showings of the program in one evening, before we go out to the beach. So that's the basis of the original museum.

With the expansion, we've added two new exhibit spaces that are highly interactive. The Exploration Center is tied to our coastal park. But it gets you in there doing things that are a little like what you might be doing as a naturalist or a scientist: working with

the tools. But some of it is more playful. There's an area where you can dress up as a marine critter, and then see yourself on TV, and things like that. The other [new] facility is the aquatic nursery, where we're growing all different sorts of animals and doing research projects. But it's an exhibit hall, so people can go in there, and they can talk with the young people doing all these projects. It gives you a real feel for what it's like to work in a laboratory, and to be raising these critters. And then we have a marine research library upstairs here that was a special donation from a philanthropist in Long Beach.

John H.: Is the library open to the public?

Susanne: It is open to the public, so a lot of the students working downstairs make heavy use of that library.

John H.: How was that expansion funded?

Susanne: It was a combination of sources. There was public funding through the county Prop A from 1996. There was a tax assessment district. And then also that same year, the City passed Prop K. And that gave us an additional \$5 million for the project. And our Friends organization was asked to raise money. So they ended up contributing about \$3 million. The whole project was nominally a \$10 million project. I think it was actually more like \$11 million. It was paid for with County, City and Friends funds, with some state money as well.

More Than Salty Water

John H.: Do you have any personal philosophies about people and the ocean? Do you see it more than just salty water and a tan?

Susanne: Well yeah. There are very fundamental connections between people and the ocean, not just from an historical perspective. The air that we breathe, most of that oxygen is actually produced by plankton. Seventy percent of the earth is covered with ocean water, and so a tremendous amount of the oxygen in the air actually comes from

Continued on next page...



Mike Schaadt, Exhibit Director, 16 years.

Front row, from left: Brandi Abrams-Gonzalez, Volunteer Coordinator, 5 years; and Leslie Paolett, Museum Guide, 1 year. Back: Jim Depompei, Educator, 1.5 years; Alex Long, Museum Guide, 5 years; Diane Alps, Clerk Typist, 3 months; Juliette McAllister, Clerk Typist, 4 years; Steve Vogel, Curator, 20 years; Alice Bensch, Tour Coordinator, 13 years; and Nini Buchheim, Gift Shop Manager, 31 years.

Jeff Landesman, Senior Aquarist.

From left: Chris Okamoto, Aquarist; Lisa Bartley, Aquarist; and Mike Schaadt, Exhibit Director.

From left: Steve Vogel, Curator, 20 years; Alice Bensch, Tour Coordinator, 13 years; and Diane Alps, Clerk Typist, 3 months.



Department of the Month

Continued from previous page...

the ocean. So, the health of the ocean is very critical ultimately to people and to most life on earth in that sense. So there is that.

But it's also the cradle of life. Right at the seashore, right at low tide, you can see examples of every type of organism in the path of evolution. And yes, evolution is not just a theory [laughs]. I am a scientist and I think it's important that people learn to observe the world from a scientific aspect. Looking at things from a scientific aspect means learning to observe closely and then, beyond that, to do tests to find out how do things work. It's important for people to have that exposure too, so we emphasize science education here a lot.

John H.: Do you think of any place on the planet, the seashore is where your mind starts to really race?

Susanne: Everything is right there, you know, everything.

John H.: From mammals to ...

Susanne: From the single cell creatures to sponges, which are the most primitive form of multi-cellular life, through sea anemones through sort of the next step up, different kinds of worms. The whole pathway of evolution is right at the seashore.

Civil Service

John H.: There are a lot of great people working for the City, including leaders and people forging new ground and going into new territories.

Susanne: I've been working for the City for over 31 years, and there have been aspects of it that are frustrating, that we are so far away, it's a huge bureaucracy, that kind of thing, but I wouldn't have traded it. There is a tremendous number of people in the City at all levels who I respect highly. I'm proud of working for the City.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Fact Sheet

Mission: Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (CMA) is an educational, recreational and research facility of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks dedicated to providing rich and varied opportunities for early and continuing education of the general public about the marine environment of Southern California.

Location: Situated on Cabrillo Beach near the foot of the Los Angeles Breakwater in San Pedro, Calif., CMA is easy walking distance of ocean and harbor beaches, the rocky shore Point Fermin Marine Life Refuge, the manmade Salinas de San Pedro coastal wetland, the Cabrillo Beach federal fishing pier, and fossil-rich cliffs, making it an ideal location for education about Southern California coastal habitats and urban marine environmental issues.

Facilities: Cabrillo Marine Museum originally opened in 1935 within the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse, showcasing ocean life and maritime exhibits. In 1981, it moved into a modern facility designed by Frank Gehry and Associates, focusing on Southern California marine life and blending museum, aquarium, and marine laboratory functions. The Gehry-designed facility includes: Southern California Marine Habitats Hall: 7,600 square feet of live, interpretive and interactive exhibits showcasing the flora and fauna of major habitats including rocky seashores and kelp forests, sandy beaches and mudflats, open ocean and Channel Islands. John M. Olguin Auditorium: 279 seats with stage and projection booth. Marine Laboratory Classroom: 1,500 square feet with running seawater and microscopes. Collections, Workshop, and Projects Lab and the Administration Building provide offices, storage and work areas.

New Expansion: The 20,000-square foot expansion, which opened in October 2004, nearly doubles the size of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

S. Mark Taper Foundation Courtyard: 6,000-square foot courtyard with Water and Sand Dynamics and Fossil Wall activity stations.

Exploration Center: 2,417-square-foot exhibit hall with hands-on displays and activities relating to Cabrillo Coastal Park where "You are the Naturalist."

Aquatic Nursery: 2,497-square foot exhibit hall where the focus is "raising young marine organisms and young scientists." Aquaculture for various purposes is showcased in an active laboratory/research setting with volunteer scientists-in-training and interpretive exhibits.

Virginia Reid Moore Marine Research Library: 2,467-square foot library with books, periodicals and computer stations for student, teacher and public research on marine life and the Southern California coastline.

Offices: 2,273-square feet of new office space for CMA and Friends of CMA staff.

Expansion Partners: Architect: Barton Phelps and Associates; Construction: FTR International, Inc.; Exhibits: Split Rock Studios Museum Outfitters

Ongoing Programs: In 2003, CMA's school programs served about 150,000 children through exhibit tours, spring beach program, Sea Search marine biology lab/field workshops, Ocean Outreach visits to schools, and winter whale-watching boat trips and school visits. Public programs served another 160,000 people through exhibit visits, Discovery Labs, Weekend Tidepool Tours, a variety of summer and weekend Science at the Seashore marine biology workshops, Meet the Grunion nighttime programs, Channel Island boat trips, an annual expedition to the gray whale calving lagoons of Baja California, three festivals a year (Whale Fiesta, Earth Day, and Autumn Sea Fair), and daily Cabrillo Whalewatch boat trips in winter in collaboration with the American Cetacean Society/Los Angeles Chapter. A rich variety of volunteer programs involve more than 500 individuals each year in Exhibit Hall Docents, Junior Docents, Whalewatch Naturalists, Sea Rangers, Aquarist Assistants, and research opportunities in the Aquatic Nursery and field research.

New Programs: The new facilities will provide daily school tours and public visits in the Aquatic Nursery and Exploration Center beginning in 2005. Research and interpretive volunteer opportunities with the new Aquatic Nursery began in Fall 2004. New programs emphasizing the impact of our urban watershed and the marine environment are being funded by the Annenberg Foundation (LA OLE!—Los Angeles Ocean Learning Experiences, for youth and families), BP International (Portals to the Sea, in collaboration with the Algalita Foundation), and the State Water Quality Control Board (watershed exhibit).

Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Capital Campaign: The \$10-million capital campaign was conducted from 2000 through 2002, raising \$2.83 million to combine with public funding for the expansion provided by Los Angeles City Prop K LA for Kids funds and Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhoods Parks funds. Private and foundation donors of \$100,000 and more include: Virginia Reid Moore and the Will J. Reid Foundation; S. Mark Taper Foundation, The Ahmanson Foundation, W.M. Keck Foundation, Weingart Foundation, Dr. Allen H. and Charlotte Ginsburg Wilderness Experience Foundation, The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, Smith-Welsh Foundation, and the Yvonne Bogdanovich Family.

Hours and Admission: Open Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday - Friday from noon to 5 p.m. Admission donation: \$5 adults/\$1 youths and seniors. School and group tours by reservation 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday through Friday. Fee is one bagful of aluminum cans per class. Marine biology workshops and outreach visits for schools by reservation Monday through Friday for a fee, with limited scholarships available.

Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium: First established as the Cabrillo Marine Museum Volunteers in 1975, Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium provides volunteer services and major funding from grants and other sources to Cabrillo Marine Aquarium on an annual basis, as well as the successful capital campaign for the expansion.

Staffing: With the expansion, CMA's full-time staff doubled from 15 to 30. Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium employs five full-time staff.

Seafood Watch: Best Choices When Dining

The Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, in cooperation with the Monterey Bay Aquarium, publishes a guide for making choices about which fish is advisable for eating. Here is the list for 2006. You can download and print your own pocket guide at www.seafoodwatch.org — Ed.

Best Choices: These are your best seafood choices. These fish are abundant, well managed and caught or farmed in environmentally friendly ways.

Good Alternatives: These are good alternatives to the Best Choices. However, there are concerns with how they're caught or farmed; or with the health of the habitat due to other human impacts.

Avoid: Avoid these fish, at least for now. They come from sources that are overfished and/or caught or farmed in ways that harm other marine life or the environment.

(A single asterisk indicates an FDA and/or EPA advisory for women of childbearing age and children. A double asterisk indicates certified as sustainable to the Marine Stewardship Council standard. Visit www.msc.org)

Best Choices

Abalone (farmed)
Catfish (U.S. farmed)
Clams, mussels, oysters (farmed)
Cod: Pacific (trap or hook and line-caught)
Crab: Dungeness, snow (Canada)
Halibut: Pacific
Lobster: Spiny (U.S.)
Pollock (wild-caught from Alaska)**
Sablefish/black cod (Alaska, British Columbia)
Salmon (wild-caught from Alaska)**
Sardines
Shrimp: pink (Oregon)
Spot prawn (British Columbia)
Striped bass (farmed)
Sturgeon, caviar (farmed)
Tilapia (farmed)
Trout: rainbow (farmed)
Tuna: albacore, bigeye, yellowfin (troll/pole-caught)
White seabass

Good Alternatives:

Basatra (farmed)
Clams, oysters* (wild caught)
Cod: Pacific (longline- or trawl-caught)
Crab: king (Alaska), snow (U.S.), imitation
Dogfish* (British Columbia)
Lingcod
Lobster: American/Maine
Mahi mahi/dolphinfish/dorado
Rockfish* (hook- and line-caught from Alaska and British Columbia)
Sablefish/black cod (California, Oregon, Washington)
Salmon (wild-caught from California, Oregon, Washington)
Sanddabs: Pacific
Scallops: bay, sea
Shrimp (U.S.-farmed or wild)
Sole: English, Dover, Petrale, Rex
Spot prawn (U.S.)
Squid
Sturgeon (wild-caught from Oregon, Washington)
Swordfish* (U.S.)
Tuna: albacore, bigeye, yellowfin (longline caught)
Tuna: canned light
Tuna*: canned white/albacore

Avoid

Chilean seabass/toothfish*
Cod: Atlantic
Crab: king (imported)
Dogfish* (U.S.)
Grenadier/Pacific roughy
Lobster: spiny (Caribbean imported)
Monkfish
Orange roughy*
Rockfish (trawl-caught)*
Salmon (farmed, including Atlantic)*
Shark*
Shrimp (imported farmed or wild-caught)
Sturgeon*, caviar (imported wild-caught)
Swordfish (imported)*
Tuna: bluefin*

A Brief Tour of the New Expansion At The Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

1

The Aquatic Nursery

Susanne: This is our Aquatic Nursery. We call this whole area our Aquaculture Kitchen. We're raising microscopic plants and animals there to feed the other animals.

John H.: And these tanks are?

Susanne: We have the algae growing there. These are different kinds of microscopic algae and these house microscopic animals called rotifers in them. They're really, really tiny and we need food like that for the larval forms of the animals in the rest of the lab.

John H.: They've got to be small.

Susanne: Uh-huh. We have an exhibit [demonstration] in here, every time we count the animals. So [students] learn sampling techniques and do the math to take small samples.

John H.: What a great way to learn.

Susanne: Yeah.

John H.: This is the way to retain it.

Susanne: They also learn that they're feeding with tiny little critters and they need to have certain density of the food within the water. Otherwise [the creatures'] chances of actually encountering their food are not enough. The students need to know what the densities are in that. Actually having our students learn and go through the same process that we go through every day, makes it real for them, and it makes it something they also are capable of doing.

John H.: And it's visually appealing?

Susanne: Yeah.



4

Lending Creatures

Susanne: And then we have a whole area for sending animals to other zoos and aquariums, which we do quite a bit. We've raised garibaldi, the state-grown fish. We raise them in these tanks and then we set some of them off to other zoos around the country, or even overseas.

That way zoos and aquariums don't have to take stuff from the wild quite as much.

John H.: And this is open to the public?

Susanne: Yeah, this is open to the public.

John H.: Right now?

Susanne: Yeah.

John H.: Someone could just walk in here.

Susanne: Yeah.



John H.: That's pretty amazing.

Susanne: Yeah, it is. If you go to the various parks, you can see people working at research, it's not like you're right in there with them and talking with them.

John H.: Here, you're actually in the lab.

Susanne: Yeah.



Museum artwork depicting the Cabrillo Tidepool.

East Coast Fish Meets West Coast Appetites

Susanne: This section has to do with animals that are being raised as food for humans. In this case, these are not commercially exploited fish, except that the sports fishermen will go out and catch these things once they're grown up. But mussels are something that are also eaten commercially. You've had them in restaurants probably.

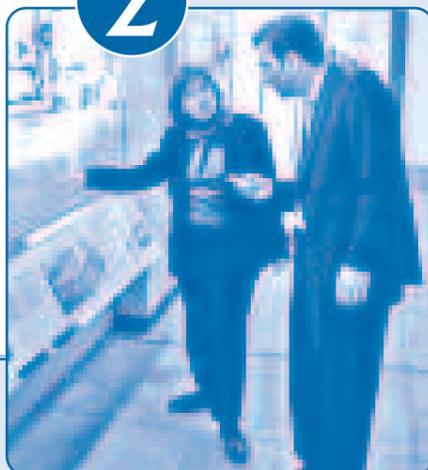
John H.: I don't eat shellfish. Not because I have a rule about it.

Susanne: I like shellfish.

John H.: A lot of people do.

Susanne: I won't eat abalone because I used to work with them. They have so much personality that I just cannot eat them [laughs].

2



5

The Exploration Center

John H.: So this is the Exploration Center?

Susanne: Yes, it's tied to the habitats of the different aquatic areas.

John H.: These are quality exhibits.

Susanne: Yeah.

John H.: And this whole area, is it new?

Susanne: It's a little over a year old. But some exhibits, like that watershed exhibit, just got installed about a month ago.



3

Aquaculture Research

Susanne: We're doing two things here. We're growing stuff that we're researching, but we're also teaching people about why do this. So a lot of research has to do with commercial aquaculture. And then this next section has to do with growing things in order to help them survive in the wild actually. It's sort of like the zoo's raising California condors. We're breeding them in captivity and then trying to restock the wild population. This is something that we're taking steps to help do this with abalone because Southern

California used to be a hot spot in the world for abalone. There used to be huge numbers, but now they're almost nonexistent in Southern California. It's a result of harvesting and diseases and that kind of thing. And so we are learning to raise them through their early stages in captivity, and then we want to restock them in the wild.

White abalone in particular: It's the first marine invertebrate that's been put on the final endangered species list, and there's a lab up in Port Hueneme that's growing them. They're spawning and growing some white abalone. We hope to get some of theirs so that we can help raise them and set them free in their right habitat again too.



Left to right:
An exhibition in the Exploration Center. The Cabrillo Marine Aquarium overlooks Cabrillo Beach in San Pedro. The new Virginia Reid Moore Marine Research Library, part of the new expansion, is open to the public.



Department of the Month

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

70 Years of Marine Education: A Brief History of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

1935

Marine specimens collected at Venice Beach by local City of Los Angeles beach lifeguards were moved to the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse, which became the Cabrillo Marine Museum under the City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department. Dr. William Lloyd, a retired dentist, was hired to curate the collection.

1949

John Olguin, Captain of the Cabrillo Beach Lifeguards, was appointed Director of the Museum. He began to give impromptu talks to visiting school groups and later, as the popularity of the museum as a school field trip site grew, began recruiting volunteers to assist with tour and beach walk programs.

1951

Under John Olguin's leadership, the Museum began an evening program that highlighted a local marine phenomenon, the grunion fish spawning on the beach. The unique and highly popular program continues to this day.

1969

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and its evening grunion program were recognized nationally by National Geographic magazine in May.

1971

The City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks initiated the planning for an entirely new Cabrillo Marine Museum with a new building and new exhibits.

1972

The Museum's whalewatch program, co-sponsored by the American Cetacean Society, began taking school groups to sea in boats to observe the winter migration of the Pacific gray whales.

1974

Hiring of initial staffing for the new museum was completed with the appointment of Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller as Exhibits Director.

1975

The Museum's volunteers became incorporated as the Cabrillo Marine Museum Volunteers and began raising funds in support of the museum as well as recruiting and training volunteers for its programs and activities.

1976

John Olguin and Susanne Lawrenz-Miller were appointed Associate Directors, jointly in charge of the Museum. Planning for the new museum was reactivated when a new architect, Frank Gehry and Associates, received a contract from the Department of Recreation and Parks in May.

1980

The Cabrillo Marine Museum Volunteers formed a general public membership branch, Friends of Cabrillo Marine Museum.

1981

On October 21, the grand opening of the new \$3 million Cabrillo Marine Museum was held. Programs were transferred to the new Museum and the original building was closed to the public. The Museum won a Special Merit Award from the California Coastal Commission "for embodying the importance of educating the public on the marine environment and for its thoughtful design and arrangement of exhibits."

1982-88

New exhibits opened on a regular basis, and new programs, including Sea Search, were developed and enthusiastically received by the community. John Olguin retired and became Director Emeritus. Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller was

appointed Museum Director. Marineland closed, leaving Cabrillo Marine Museum as the only public aquarium in the greater Los Angeles area.

1989

A Long Range Plan for the 1990s was developed, including major expansion and capital expenditure over the next 10 years. The plans detailed large new exhibit spaces plus additional support space and staffing. Size of CMM would triple.

1993

The Museum changed its name to Cabrillo Marine Aquarium to highlight its living collections and in anticipation of major expansion as a public aquarium in the future. The Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Volunteers merged into a new non-profit support group, called Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, headed by a Board of Directors.

1995

A Master Plan for expansion was completed and strategic planning for its funding and implementation begun. In the meantime, expanded and new programs, such as Ocean Outreach, Sea Rangers and Discovery Labs, were added or expanded as Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium increased their grant-seeking and other support.

1997

The Master Plan was modified when the development of the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific reduced need for large-scale growth. The Revised Master Plan would double the size of CMA and focus on expansion of programs and exhibits throughout the coastal park and new interactive laboratory, exhibit halls and library.

2000

Fully accessible trails and interpretive exhibits were added throughout the Cabrillo Coastal Park,

staffed during low tides with volunteers from the Sea Ranger Program.

2001

Following ideas presented in the Master Plan, Phase 1 of the CMA expansion was approved by the Los Angeles City Department of Recreation and Parks. The Aquarium would almost double in size with the addition of an Exploration Center, Aquatic Nursery, Research Library and volunteer and staff offices.

2002

On July 19, CMA staff, volunteers, Friends and members of the community celebrated the groundbreaking ceremony for the new expansion. This event was highlighted by the attendance of local dignitaries and received media coverage.

2004

On October 23, the new \$10-million expansion was opened to the public following dedication and "Kelp Cutting" ceremonies. Expansion highlights include an Exploration Center, S. Mark Taper Foundation Courtyard, Aquatic Nursery and the Virginia Reid Moore Research Library. Earlier in the month, special preview receptions were held for the funders, supporters, volunteers and members.

2005

CMA opened the Virginia Reid Moore Marine Research Library to the public and celebrated its 70th anniversary with special programs, exhibits and celebrations.



Evie Templeton, Biologic Illustrator, 24 years.

Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller, Executive Director.

Volunteers, from left: Betty Clarke and Jeanne Peterson.

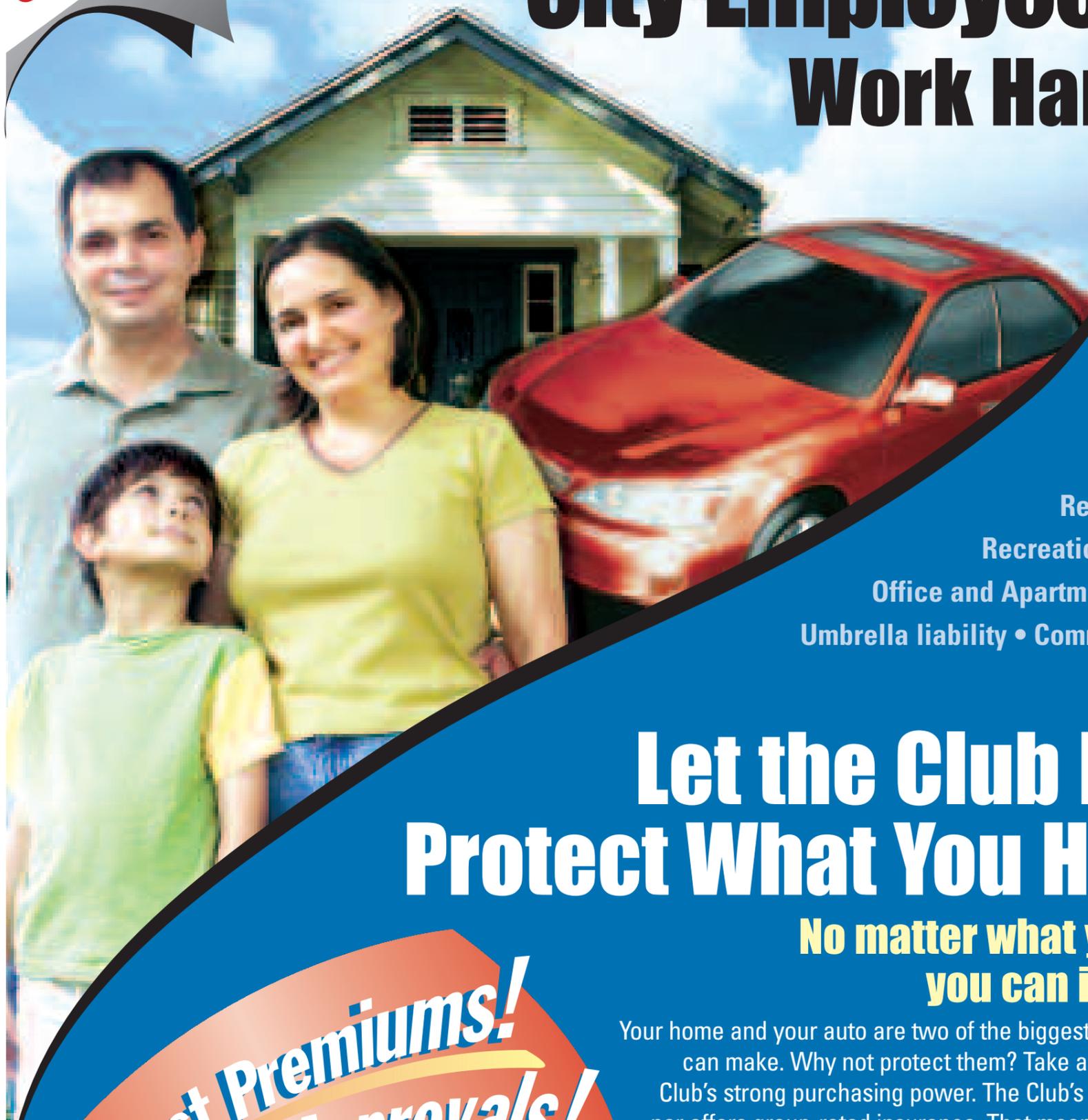
From left: Diane Alps, Clerk Typist, 3 months; Karen Bustillos; Alex Long; and Larry Fukuhara, Programs Director, 24 years.

Darryl Deleske, Aquarist, 15 years.

Call Today!

GROUP-RATED INSURANCE!

City Employees Work Hard



- Auto
- Home
- Watercraft
- Motorcycles
- Rental property
- Recreational vehicles
- Office and Apartment buildings
- Umbrella liability • Commercial risks

Let the Club Help Protect What You Have!

**No matter what you own,
you can insure it!**

Your home and your auto are two of the biggest purchases you can make. Why not protect them? Take advantage of the Club's strong purchasing power. The Club's insurance partner offers group-rated insurance. That means low-cost premiums and fast approvals! Take advantage today!

**Low Cost Premiums!
Fast Approvals!**

**FREE
ESTIMATES**

Protect your assets. Call today! **Press Option 3**

(800) 640-1712

Have these things handy, to be ready to save:

- Your Club membership ID number
- Your current policy

Another great benefit offered to members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles



Offered through the Club's partner, Crusberg Decker Insurances Services, Inc., CAD01 #OD91080. Offices in Pasadena, Montclair, Corona and Lancaster. This program representing the following California admitted insurers: • Alliance United Insurance Services • Allied Insurance Co. • Civil Service Employees Insurance Co. • Explorer Insurance Co. • F.A.C.T. • Hartford Insurance Co. • Infinity Insurance Co. • Mercury Insurance Group • Millennium Insurance Co. • Progressive Insurance Co. • Safeco



Promoting an Event? Need Fund Raising Items?
High School Reunions, Family Reunions, Incentives, Awards, Safety Programs
Call 213-689-4662
"If you can imagine it, we can create it."

ROSEBUD Marketing Group
 110 E. 9th Street Suite A-44
 Los Angeles, CA 90079
 213-689-4662 Fax: 213-689-7670
 E-Mail: rmd1903@aol.com

www.RosebudMarketing.com

Have you been thinking about...

LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE?



Call the people you can trust:
 The City Employee Club of Los Angeles. We have been offering the highest quality group rated insurance plans exclusively to active and retired City employees for over 75 years.

- Group Rated
- Pension/Payroll Deducted
- Rates Are Locked

Call today for your free information kit on how the City Employees Club of Los Angeles can help you choose the right Long Term Care plan for you.



1-800-464-0452

Don't wait another day. Start preserving your assets today!

City Employees Club of Los Angeles
 World Trade Center • 350 South Figueroa Street, Suite 700 • Los Angeles, CA 90071

CONSIDERING PLASTIC SURGERY???
Don't Have the Time for Research??

Helen Elliott Enterprises, Inc.
 is your One-Stop Solution!

Can't Find Dr. Right? Call Us Today, We Do It All!!!



Toll-free: (888) 433-0001
www.helenelliott.com
 Beverly Hills, CA

*All LA City Employees receive a preferred rate & a No-Charge consultation.
 Creative Consultants to "The Swan" on Fox Television.
 Helen Elliott has over 28 years of experience in the Plastic Surgery Field.

CLUB MEMBERS: Call (888) 652-6400 for all your travel needs – individuals, groups, meetings and incentives.

CRUISE and RESORT.

Your Club Partner for Travel

THIS MONTH'S FEATURED VACATIONS
 Club Members save \$\$\$ and receive special benefits!

We are Cruise Specialists!
 Call for all cruise lines:

- Princess
- Holland America
- Crystal
- NCL
- Celebrity
- Oceania
- Radisson Seven Seas
- Royal Caribbean
- Carnival
- Disney
- Delta Queen
- Cunard
- Silversea

Hawaii Luxury Vacation

10 Nights: March 27 – April 6, 2006

Rates from \$3498 per adult.
 Only \$599 for children if they share a room with two adults.

- Sail and Snorkel catamaran trip
- Two gourmet dinners
- Tubing adventure on Kauai
- Choice of massage or round of golf on Kauai

HOTELS: 5 nights at The Grand Wailea Resort on Maui and 5 nights at the Grand Hyatt Resort & Spa on Kauai

This amazing package includes deluxe hotels and taxes, air transportation between Maui and Kauai and exclusive custom events.

Call for more details on this very upscale exclusive package hosted by Kristy and Tony Adler!

Call for all Local Getaways
 Las Vegas, San Diego, Laguna Beach/Dana Point, Disneyland, Palm Springs Area, Monterey, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, Lake Tahoe

Call for all Exotic Vacations
 African Safari Experts
 Hawaii Resorts and Tours
 Worldwide Villa Rentals

Call for all Cruises
 Caribbean, Mexico, Alaska, Europe, Canada/New England, Bermuda, Asia, Panama Canal

Mexico & Hawaii Vacations Now!

Book early!
 Holiday departures sell out fast.

EARN EXTRA INCOME! **ENJOY TRAVEL BENEFITS!**

Become a CRUISE and RESORT Independent Travel Agent

If you have family, friends and associates who combine for at least \$100,000 in yearly travel, or you are currently planning meetings, this is a wonderful part-time or full-time opportunity that can earn you thousands of extra dollars.
 Pay only the \$495 fee for training and affiliation, and then a yearly association fee.
 To learn more, contact Kristy Adler at the number below or go to www.cruiseandresort.com and click on "Join Our Team" at the bottom of the Home page.

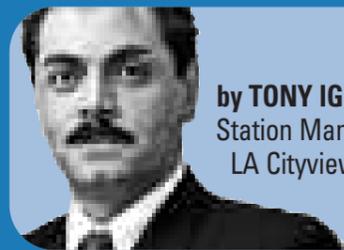
CRUISE and RESORT.

(888) 652-6400
 or (818) 990-4290

EASY VACATION PLANNING!
 Call for all travel — Cruises, Tours, Spas, Hotels & Resorts
 Official Club Partner — Personalized service for all Club Members
www.cruiseandresort.com

E-Mail: Kristy at kadler@cruiseandresort.com or Julie at jwallace@cruiseandresort.com • 15303 Ventura Boulevard, 10th Floor, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
 Rates are per person, based on double occupancy, subject to availability and certain conditions may apply. CST #2068338-40.

Tuned In



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



Offers Other Ways to View Programming

Once again, hello from Channel 35!

We're happy to bring you exciting programming information as part of a regular feature in Alive! We hope this partnership will help you gain a voice in City government as a viewer on the City's cable channel, LA Cityview 35.

Channel 35 began airing live and repeat Council meetings in November 1989. Since that time, our programming has grown by leaps and bounds. Now, with more than 15 original series, we continue our quantum leap forward. In 2005, we began providing regular coverage to five key City commissions including DWP, Harbor, Airport, Police and CRA.

In addition to programming on Channel 35, other valuable services are available to *Alive!* readers and our viewer:

CouncilPhone:

Listen live to Council meetings and other City hearings on the phone. Just dial **(213) 621-City, (310) 547-City, (818) 904-9450** and get connected live to the meeting of your choice. Just follow the menu instructions.

Webcasting:

You don't have to subscribe to cable TV service to view our programming. Just log on to www.lacity.org and click on Channel 35 webcast, from any computer, anywhere in the world.

Many more exciting programs and services will be launched in 2006, so keep on watching and reading.

Here are some terrific shows premiering in February:

The Future of LA

Hosted and produced by Councilman Tony Cardenas (Council District 6), the Emmy-nominated "The Future of LA" is an energetic and spirited program that highlights what the City of Los Angeles is doing for the youths of today.

While past episodes have concentrated on everything from getting your hands on some college cash to shedding light on some of the City's most vital gang-intervention programs, "The Future of LA" is beginning the year with a special volunteer edition that is sure to get Angelenos of all ages excited about community involvement.

Neighborhood Café

Airing this month are several new installments of "Neighborhood Café." This series centers on neighborhood councils and tackles the issues affecting their community. Always topical, "Neighborhood Café" provides valuable information that every Angeleno needs to know, and encourages them to join their neighborhood council to get things done.

Tax Reform Measures

Business owners in the City, especially those in the entertainment industry, can't afford to miss this new informative and educational program about important new tax reform measures instituted by the City effective Jan. 1.

The Mayor and the City Council passed a package of tax reform measures, which will provide more than \$92 million in business tax relief. This effort is geared to attract and retain more businesses, which will promote jobs and economic growth in the City. These measures are: Rate Reduction; Small Business Exemption; Creative Artist Exemption and Tax Reduction and Simplification for the Motion Picture, Television, and Radio Producers. The program is designed to break down the sometimes complicated rules into manageable and easy-to-understand explanations so that you can fully take advantage of them before the filing deadline of Feb. 28.

To learn how these measures can save you hundreds if not thousands of dollars, tune in to LA Cityview 35.

Your Police Commission

"Your Police Commission" ("YPC") begins its sixth year on the air with three new episodes. Hosted by Police Commission Executive Director Richard Tefank, "YPC," delves into the policy issues facing the Los Angeles Police Commission, the five-member body overseeing the Los Angeles Police Department. In the new episodes, you will meet the new Police Commissioners; learn about the devastating effects of Domestic Violence, and see first-hand how Community Police Advisory Boards improve our communities.

For a full listing of the program information, dates, and times visit LA Cityview 35's Website at www.lacityview.org



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

Contact Tony with your questions:
channel35@cityemployeesclub.com

See you on LA Cityview 35!



From left: Ofcr. Thomas Dye; Ofcr. Shawna Smith; Sgt. Richard Higgins; Ofcr. Rodney Rouzan; Ofcr. Brian Davis; Ofcr. Sophia Gallegos; and Lt. Leon Nixon. In front: Councilmember Herb Wesson.

Welcome, Herb

Herb Wesson is sworn in as 10th District Councilman.

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor
Photos courtesy LAX Police

CITY COUNCIL — Herb J. Wesson was sworn in as the 10th District Councilmember in December. Los Angeles Airport Police Honor Guards took part in the ceremony.

In November, the voters of the 10th Council District recognized Wesson's long service to the community by electing him to represent them.



Wesson started as the Chief of Staff of former Councilmember Nate Holden, then as Chief of Staff of County Supervisor Yvonne Burke. He was then elected as the representative of the 47th State Assembly District.

Welcome back to the City, Herb!



Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.



Sgt. Marlo Richardson and Ofcr. Shawna Smith.



From left: Councilmember Eric Garcetti; LA County Supervisor Yvonne Burke; Councilmember Herb Wesson; Fabian Wesson; Mr. Wesson's minister; and former Councilmember Martin Ludlow.



Officer Rodney Rouzan.



Former Councilmember Martin Ludlow.



From left: Ofcr. Michael Manahan; Sgt. Richard Higgins; Ofcr. Rodney Rouzan; Ofcr. Sofia Gallegos; Ofcr. Thomas Dye; Capt. Laponda Fitchpatrick; Ofcr. Brian Davis; Ofcr. Shawna Smith; and Ofcr. Robert Muhammad.

History Comes Alive!

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



Tales From the City Archives

Olympic Gold

■ Looking at the challenges and ultimate success of the City's 1984 Olympics.

With the advent of the 2006 winter Olympic Games in Torino, Italy, this month, and interest in the summer Games returning to Los Angeles in 2016, it seemed appropriate that Los Angelenos should review our past involvement in this international spectacle. The author of this article, Anton Calleia, was steeped in the managing and organizing of the City's bid for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games.

Mr. Calleia, was for 20 years one of Mayor Tom Bradley's top aides, was Project Manager of the City's bid for the 1984 Olympic Games. He served the City for 28 years, retiring in 1993 as Chief Executive Assistant to the Mayor. (He was a member of the transition team that helped Mayor Richard Riordan launch his administration. He also served as Council President John Ferraro's appointee to the Charter Reform Commission, and is a member of the board of the Municipal Improvement Corporation of Los Angeles.)



Anton Calleia, the Project Manager of the City's bid for the 1984 Olympic Games.

It should not come as a surprise to anyone that Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, shortly after his election, expressed his personal support for the effort to bring the 2016 Olympic Games to Los Angeles.

Ever since its successful hosting of the 1932 Games, Los Angeles has been on a constant quest to bring back the Games, succeeding spectacularly in 1984. Berlin hosted the 1936 Olympics, and World War II caused the cancellation of the Games in 1940 and 1944. But Los Angeles was back in the running for 1948, 1952, 1956, 1960 and 1964 Games, each time being eliminated from the competition before it reached the final selection by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

A bid for the 1976 Olympics, organized by a committee headed by John B. Kilroy, made it all the way to the IOC in 1970. The competition then was from Moscow and Montreal; and the IOC avoided the appearance of taking sides between the Cold War rivals, the United States and the Soviet Union, by awarding the Games to Montreal. At the time, the official reason given by the IOC for the choice of Montreal was that Olympic rules prohibit the Games from being a part of larger celebration, i.e. our National Bicentennial.

Ever since its successful hosting of the 1932 Olympics, Los Angeles has been on a constant quest to bring back the Games, succeeding spectacularly in 1984. Before the decade of the 1930s was over, a group of distinguished citizens formed



The Closing Ceremonies of the 1984 Olympic Games at the Coliseum.

the Southern California Committee for the Olympic Games (SCCOG), which remains active to this day. It was an easy guess that the 1980 Games would go to Moscow. But Mayor Tom Bradley and the leadership of SCCOG, particularly its President John C. Argue, believed Los Angeles had to stay in the running for the 1980 Games if it had to have any chance of being awarded the 1984 Games. So, a Los Angeles delegation, headed by Mayor Bradley, went before the IOC in Vienna in 1974. As had been expected, the 1980 Games were awarded to Moscow, but Los Angeles made important IOC friends at that meeting.

The choice of a host city for the 1984 Games would be made by the IOC at its session in Athens in 1978. But as the City's quest progressed, two issues began to dominate the public debate:

1. The 1972 Olympics in Munich had been marred by a terrorist attack that killed eleven of the Israeli athletes; and
2. In its preparation for the 1976 Olympics, Montreal had incurred a public bonded indebtedness in excess of \$1 billion for construction of the main stadium, several arenas and an Olympic Village to house the athletes.

Would Los Angeles be inviting a terrorist attack, and would it bankrupt the City treasury if the City were to host the Games?

Talk radio provided a ready soapbox for self-appointed vox populi, who talked up the terrorist threat and predicted that the taxpayers would be left holding the bag. Consistently negative coverage by the Los Angeles Times did not help. Yet public opinion polls showed that a significant majority of Los Angeles residents favored hosting the Games if the City could be shielded from financial liability. As far as the terrorist threat was concerned, very few people felt it should affect the City's decision.

From the start, Bradley, had insisted that "the Games pay for themselves" – that the City would not carry any financial responsibility. Elements in the international Olympic movement had never heard of such a notion, and some considered it an affront to the IOC.

In Athens the 1984 Games were provisionally awarded to Los Angeles, and it took months of negotiations with the IOC to get them to accept a totally privately run Olympics, with the City completely protected from financial liability. A final "take it or leave it" type of letter from Bradley convinced the IOC that the City would not back down. The IOC accepted the City's proposal.

As far as the "terrorist threat" was concerned, very few people felt that should affect the decision whether to bid for the Games. The terrorists were not going to intimidate us.

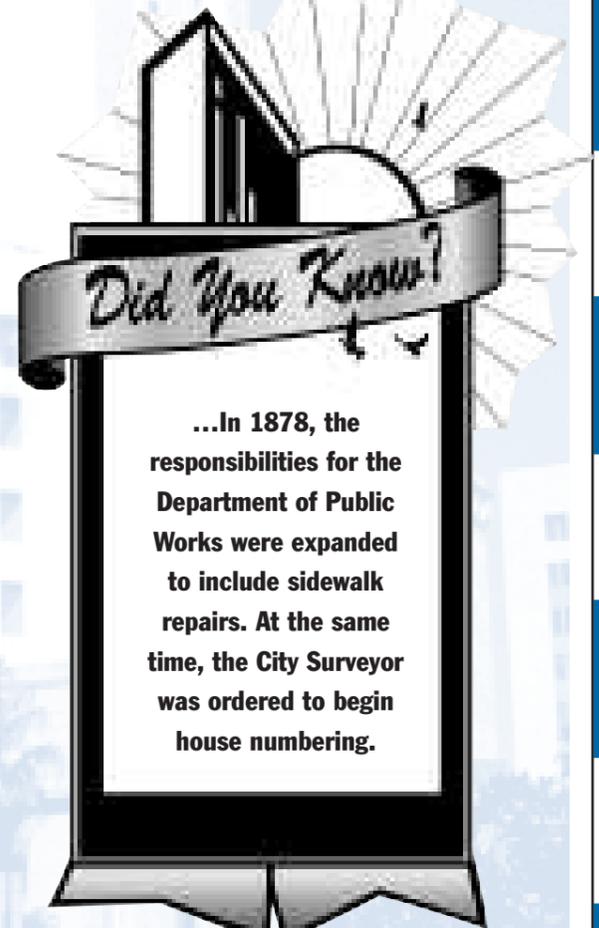
In the end, the 1984 Games in Los Angeles were a huge success. Athletes from 140 nations participated in a festive atmosphere of friendly competition. Regretfully, the Soviet Union stayed away, retaliating for the U.S. boycott of the Moscow Games as a protest over the Soviet's war in Afghanistan.

Financially, the 1984 Olympics were an even greater success. They generated a surplus of \$225 million! Of this amount, the U.S. Olympic Committee received about \$135 million, and about \$90 million became an endowment to the Amateur Athletic Foundation (AAF). To date, the AAF has provided \$14 million in grants for youth basketball programs, \$4.2 million for youth soccer programs, \$6.2 million for track and field organizations, and \$6 million to promote swimming among youngsters.

Will the Games be as successful in Los Angeles in 2016?

Why not?

This article was written by Anton Calleia, the Project Manager of the City's bid for the 1984 Olympic Games. He is now member of the board of the Municipal Improvement Corporation of Los Angeles.



...In 1878, the responsibilities for the Department of Public Works were expanded to include sidewalk repairs. At the same time, the City Surveyor was ordered to begin house numbering.

Celebrating Black History Month



The Watts Prophets

■ Water and Power African American Association to host celebration on Feb. 28.

Story and photos courtesy Marie Y. Lemelle, WPAAA President

WPAAA — The Water and Power African American Association (WPAAA) is hosting a program and celebration titled "A Celebration of African American History Makers" Feb. 28 in the John Ferraro Building auditorium, 111 N. Hope St. The program, scheduled to run from 11:15 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., is free.

Starting back in 1926, February was designated as the month to ensure that the countless contributions and achievements of African Americans were not overlooked or forgotten. As a result, the nation celebrates Black History Month in a variety of ways – from award ceremonies to television programs about numerous groundbreaking achievements.

While the Water and Power African American Association believes that the recognition of past and living African American history makers should be in effect year round, WPAAA partnered with the Dunbar Economic Development Corporation in honor of Black History Month to present "A Celebration of African American History Makers."

The public is invited to join WPAAA and the Dunbar EDC to experience an inside glimpse into the talents and determination of legends and rising stars who are an integral part of the American history of music, entertainment and sports.

"Without a doubt, the history and legacies of African Americans have been keenly interwoven into the fabric of American culture," says Michael Dolphin, a Dunbar EDC Board Member. "For those of us of the Dunbar EDC, we particularly appreciate the attention to the legacies of the great musicians and performers of this City."

Scheduled to appear are:

- Tom Reed, former number one African American disc jockey at KGFJ, KMET, XPRS and KDAY during the 1960s and '70s
- The Watts Prophets, inspirational poets
- Saxophonist Daniel Richardson and vocalist Alexandra Isley are accompanied by the Billy Mitchell Trio
- Conney Williams, spoken word poet, author and DWP employee
- Harry Flournoy, member of the 1966 NCAA championship basketball team from Texas Western College
- Voices of Power

"Tom Reed is a leading historian and musicologist with a particular emphasis on Los Angeles. The Watts Prophets are a significant part of that history. Billy Mitchell is helping to prepare the next generation of contributors,"



Tom Reed

Dolphin remarked. "We are honored to be able to co-sponsor the event."

Parking is available in the DWP Customer Parking Lot (enter on Hope Street between First and Temple Streets). Food or drinks are not allowed in the auditorium, but prior to the program, lunch can be purchased or brought in and eaten in the adjoining cafeteria. Seating is limited, so come early. For more information, call (213) 367-1314 or send an email to marie.lemelle@ladwp.com.

The event is underwritten by in-kind services and funding from the Dunbar Economic Development Community, the Cultural Affairs Department, the Water and Power Community Credit Union, and the DWP.

To learn more about the Water and Power African American Association, go to www.wpaaa.org.

Dunbar Economic Development Corporation's mission is to revitalize the Vernon-Central neighborhood. The legacies of the Dunbar Hotel and its surrounding community are worthy of historical recognition and economic growth for its residents.

About the Performers

The legendary **Tom Reed** can boast of a career in newspapers, radio and TV that spans more than 40 years. Since 1980, his "For Members Only Television" has produced black-themed independent talk shows and documentaries on KSCI-TV 18. His coffee-table size book, *The Black Music History of Los Angeles — Its Roots*, is in its fourth printing and will be available for purchase and autographs. "History was always exciting to me," says Reed. "My father and my grandfather told us who we were, where we came from. People are searching, looking for the real deal. And that's important."

The Watts Prophets – Richard Dedeaux, Amde Hamilton, and Otis O'Solomon – have recited, chanted, spoke and sung their unique jazz accompanied inspirational poetry to diverse audience around the world for nearly 40 years. "We believe in building communities through knowledge," said O'Solomon. "Our mission is to share the beauty of the spoken word, the power of the confident pen, and the value of a vibrant culture."

Jazz great **Billy Mitchell** and his trio will accompany two students, saxophonist Daniel Richardson and vocalist Alexandra Isley, from SAPP (Scholarship Audition Performance Preparatory Academy), a program founded by Mitchell. "My goal is to increase participation of inner-city students in music and arts scholarship competitions," said Mitchell who is a graduate of Moorehouse College, the nation's largest, private liberal arts college for African-American men.



Billy Mitchell

Conney Williams

(DWP employee) is a poet, actor and performance artist and hails from Shreveport, LA. "My greatest desire is to be a voice and to be heard in the midst of this wilderness," said Williams. He is the author of *Leaves of Spilled Spirit From an Untamed Poet*.



Conney Williams

Texas Western College (University of Texas at El Paso) 1966 NCAA Champion

Harry Flournoy was a member of the historic and groundbreaking Texas Western College basketball team that won the 1966 NCAA championship. The team was depicted in the recent Disney movie, *Glory Road*. "Prejudice and discrimination gave me life lessons," said Flournoy. "I learned tolerance, perseverance and to take what you want." His teammates made history as the first all-black starting lineup in a college basketball championship game. Flournoy is married to DWP employee Sukari Flournoy, a customer service representative.



Harry Flournoy

Black History Month



Did You Know?

Countless African Americans have contributed their courage and innovation to making our nation as great as it is. Many of these stories are well known, but here are a few that aren't:

Mark Dean and his co-inventor, Dennis Moeller, created a microcomputer system with bus control for peripheral processing devices. The first commercial use of their patents was marketed in 1984 in the IBM PC/AT computer.

Dr. Patricia E. Bath's passionate dedication to the treatment and prevention of blindness led her to develop the Cataract Laserphaco Probe. The probe, patented in 1988, is designed to use the power of a laser to quickly and painlessly vaporize cataracts from patients' eyes, replacing the more common method of using a grinding, drill-like device to remove the afflictions.

While employed by Procter and Gamble, **Dennis Weatherby** developed and received a patent issued on Dec. 22, 1987, for the automatic dishwasher detergent known by the trade name Cascade.

Originally from Haiti, **Michel Molaire** is the recipient of 28 U.S. patents in more than 65 foreign patents for his work in material sciences. Much of Molaire's work has been in the area of laser printing and optical recording. He is a research associate at the Office Imaging Research and Development Group of Eastman Kodak. He is responsible for many of your "Kodak moments."

Voices of Power was established in 1987 and is comprised of about 30 DWP employees. Sherrell A. Covan is the president and founder and has been employed by DWP for 22 years. Kelvin Bell is the music director and has been employed at DWP for 19 years.



Voices of Power



Children smiled and laughed when handed the socks.



From left: Volunteers Keith Moser, a photographer; Marie Lemelle, President of WPAAA; Malcolm Ali, a photographer and co-founder of L.A. Humanity Group Foundation; and Gregory Tucker, resident at the Midnight Mission, distributed hundreds of socks and knitted caps during Kwanzaa Week.



Marie Lemelle, DWP employee, and Keith Moser, volunteer, show the shopping cart filled with socks and knitted caps preparing to distribute them.

WPAAA Helps Homeless

Water and Power African American Association teams up with foundation to help the homeless.

Story by Marie Y. Lemelle, MBA, WPAAA President
Photos by Malcolm Ali, Keith Moser and Michael Riddick

"I love socks," said an unidentified woman. "May I have another pair of socks for my friend?" asked an unidentified man, pointing to a man in a wheelchair. "Are you giving away socks?" wondered two other people. "I was just wondering where I was going to get another pair of socks," said one person.

As the small group of volunteers walked along the streets of skid row pushing two shopping carts filled to the top with thick white socks and knitted caps in various colors, they seemed to become the Pied Pipers of socks and caps. Literally, hundreds of men, women and children got up and followed the group to the corner of Fifth and San Julian - less than two miles from the heart of the Los Angeles Civic Center.

"When you are homeless, small things do matter," said Gregory Tucker, who was once homeless. "Keeping your feet warm on cold nights is a priority for those on the streets." Tucker is now a resident of the Midnight Mission and seeking employment.

Several days before Kwanzaa week (Dec. 26-Jan. 1), L.A. photographer Malcolm Ali decided to do something collectively and with purpose for humanity. What came to his mind were the forgotten sons and daughters in our society. "I didn't have much money, but I knew I could afford a few pairs of socks and caps to give to the homeless," said Ali. Quoting the late Johnnie Cochran, Ali lives by his mantra, "To whom much is given, much is expected."

With only a few dollars between them, Keith

Moser and Ali pooled their money together and bought one case of socks and caps. Ali recruited Tucker, and the three of them distributed the goods. "This was my first time helping the homeless, and I was awestruck how people quickly came from everywhere, lined up, and waited to get a pair of socks and one cap," said Moser. "Every sock and cap disappeared in less than 30 minutes."

According to the latest Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority count, about 20,000 people live in the City of Los Angeles, with the vast majority dwelling in the Downtown and South Los Angeles areas. Orlando Ward, director of Public Affairs at the Midnight Mission, notes, "While difficult to measure, we are fairly certain that of this population, 7,000 to 9,000 live in the downtown area as bordered by the 10, 101, 110 freeways and the LA River."

Recognizing that the job was bigger than the three of them, during Kwanzaa week, Ali contacted Marie Lemelle, WPAAA President and a long-time friend, and explained his idea. "Immediately, Marie e-mailed the WPAAA membership and asked for donations. Within two days, WPAAA members contributed almost \$500," Ali said. "Next thing I knew, on behalf of the WPAAA members, Marie volunteered to help distribute the socks and caps."

"We chose to distribute the items during the week of Kwanzaa because of its principles," Ali continued. Founded in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, the seven guiding principles of Kwanzaa have a particular and universal value and meaning in their call for thoughtful and practical commitment to: Umoja (Unity), Kujichagulia (Self-Determination); Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility), Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics), Nia (Purpose), Kuumba (Creativity) and Imani (Faith).

Ali also added, "I decided to name the sock and cap distribution 'the First Annual Lazarus Project,' after the beggar Lazarus as written in the Bible." Timing is everything. The items were handed out to the homeless just in time to help

provide some protection from the heavy rains, cold temperature, and high winds on Jan. 2.

"We appreciate the WPAAA members for coming to our aid without hesitation, and we look forward to a long-lasting partnership," said Melvin Snell, who along with his wife, Birgitta,



WPAAA members generously donated enough money to purchase several cases of socks and knitted caps to help keep the homeless a little warmer during the cold days and nights.

and Ali co-founded the Los Angeles Humanity Group Foundation. "Ultimately, we also want to engage young people and plan to structure this twice a year event as a means for community service credits."

WPAAA has since pledged to continue to work with the Foundation in its efforts to assist the homeless, provide career training in the community at large, and offer support for victims of catastrophic events. "We have our own Katrina right here in Los Angeles," exclaimed Ali, "Homelessness is catastrophic!"

After all the items were distributed, the small group of volunteers agreed that handing out well wishes for the New Year to the homeless along with a simple gift of a pair of socks and a knitted cap warmed our hearts and, at the same time, torn our hearts apart. "It was so rewarding to see the smiles on their face," Moser said. "There is no doubt in my mind that we are our brothers' keepers," Ali said.

A verse taken from The Pied Piper of Hamelin by Robert Browning, slightly altered, epitomizes

WPAAA's and the L.A. Humanity Group Foundation's call to action to the City of Los Angeles for a helping hand:

*"If I can rid your town of homelessness
Will you give me a thousand guilders?"
"One? Fifty thousand!" - was the exclamation
Of the astonished Mayor and Corporation.*

Almost in unison, we wondered aloud what would City employees do for the homeless at least twice a year? "A little can go a long way," Snell said. Every \$48 collected buys a case of socks (124 pairs), and \$72 buys 12 dozen knitted caps.

"What sets our group apart from other non-profits or disaster organizations is that we immediately use the money to buy the products and meet the needs of the homeless as quickly as possible," Snell said. "We have no oversized warehouse to store any inventory or housing facilities to be concerned about a huge overhead. The people need the things now, so we load up our personal vehicles and bring it to them."

Bishop Eugene Hobbs of Hosana Community Church in Los Angeles has pledged hundreds of packets containing personal hygiene products for the next distribution. Additional plans to purchase other items to assist the homelessness in their need for warmth, comfort and cleanliness are in progress.

To make an immediate difference, donations of all amounts are appreciated. The next Lazarus Project event is scheduled for 10 a.m. on President's Day, Monday, Feb. 20. Volunteers are needed to assist with distributing items. Please contact Malcolm Ali for the meeting location at (323) 899-4306. Checks should be made payable to Malcolm Payne and mailed to 5187 West 20th St., Los Angeles, CA 90016.

To learn more about Ali and see the photo gallery of the sock and cap giveaway, go to www.finainage.com and click on news. For more information about the Los Angeles Humanity Group Foundation, go to www.lahumanity.org. For details about the Water and Power African American Association, visit www.wpaaa.org.

Marie Y. Lemelle is a Senior Public Relations Representative with the DWP and can be reached at m.lemelle@att.net



For nearly 90 minutes, the volunteers handed out the items to a long line of people, some handicapped and very sick, until all the socks and caps were gone.



Malcolm Ali hands a pair of socks to a man who had said his legs hurt from the cold weather.



Just one of many homeless children who was happy to receive a new pair of socks.



Many of the homeless expressed their gratitude for the thick socks since most of their time is spent walking.



Amid all the excitement of the proud parents, several cameras were flashing at the same time. Standing, from left: Paul Bassard, Jason McCarty, WPAAA President Marie Y. Lemelle, WPAAA Treasurer Angela M. Franklin, Jeffrey Rugley and Devin Jones. Seated: Alaina Patterson, Erika Bowman, Ebony Daniels, Winter McNeel and LaVinna Gray.



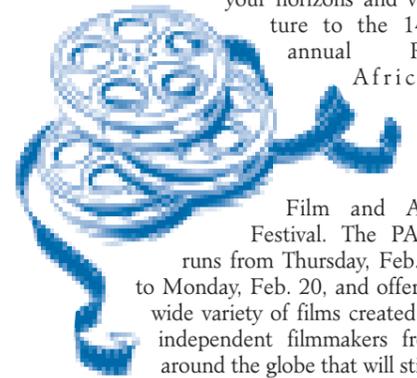
DWP employee Charlotte Magee presents scholarship recipient Winter McNeel with a door prize – an original jewelry design from her collection "Hand Creations by Charlotte." Winter's proud mother is DWP employee Tori McNeel.

Film Festival

■ Cultural Affairs co-sponsors Pan African Film Festival.

By Marie Y. Lemelle, MBA

CULTURAL AFFAIRS — If you are tired of watching movies that are sequels, remakes, and contain little substance, expand your horizons and venture to the 14th annual Pan African



Film and Arts Festival. The PAFF runs from Thursday, Feb. 9, to Monday, Feb. 20, and offers a wide variety of films created by independent filmmakers from around the globe that will stimulate your senses.

"The Pan African Film Festival is a very important cultural event in the City," says Margie Reese, General Manager, Cultural Affairs. "The exchange of ideas and opportunity to connect with people and places is only one of the many services that this Festival offers our community. Here, in the entertainment center of the world, this Festival is one of a kind, and certainly a program that the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs is proud to support and I encourage the City family to take a look at the impressive lineup of films and seminars that are planned for this year. You are sure to experience great film-making as you connect with themes that challenge, inspire and entertain."

All the screenings will be at the Magic Johnson Theatre, 3650 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. PAFF is the largest Black History Month film event in the United States and also features arts and crafts from local and international artists on the lobby levels of the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza.

One of the films to be featured is *Before the Fact*, in which filmmaker Michael J. Holland turned the lens on his married life. Shown with his wife on their wedding day, Holland explores the question, "How can a relationship with so many happy moments turn so deadly?" The 85-minute docudrama will be shown Thursday, Feb. 16. It is one of hundreds of films showcased at the festival.

The 2006 PAFF program includes a diverse selection of black films inclusive of features, shorts and documentaries, as well as studio/network releases. The PAFF is dedicated to the promotion of cultural and racial tolerance and understanding through the exhibition of film, art and creative expression.



Still photo from the docudrama *Before the Fact*.

PAFF also features panel discussions, industry workshops and seminars. Where else can you meet and greet the filmmakers and find out what makes them tick and how did they do that on a limited budget?

PAFF, launched in February 1992, was founded by Ayuko Babu. "The Pan African Film and Arts Festival has been successful because of the support of the Los Angeles community, the diverse selection of films from around the world, and sponsors," says Babu. The 2006 sponsors include Magic Johnson Theatres, Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza, Union Bank of California, Starbucks, Urban Coffee Opportunities, Magic Johnson Enterprises, Target, South African Airways, Rolling Out Magazine and the Department of Cultural Affairs.

Parking is free. For ticket sales, film schedules, and other information, please call (323) 295-1706 or visit www.paff.org.

WPAAA Scholarship Recipients

■ Water and Power African American Assn. announces scholarship recipients.

By Marie Y. Lemelle, MBA
WPAAA President

Photos by Adelle Brown, DWP Employee

When Angela Hunter lost most of her dormitory and personal items in Hurricane Katrina, it meant leaving Xavier University and starting over with very little. The news about the Water and Power African American Association scholarship award brought a smile to her face and a ray of hope that it would be okay.

"I am so grateful for the help the scholarship gave to my daughter, Angela," said Linda Jordan, a long-time WPAAA member and a utility marketing representative at the DWP. "The money came at the perfect time." Hunter has since relocated to Hampton University in Virginia and is hoping to return to New Orleans next year.

Every year, WPAAA members seek out and the Scholarship Committee awards scholarships to deserving young men and woman who, WPAAA believes, will contribute to humanity. WPAAA is a strong advocate of education, mentoring, and community service and endeavors to recruit others with a like mindset. Many of the nominees are the children, sibling, relative, friend or neighbor of a WPAAA member.

The Water and Power African American Association, established in 1991, has strived to "strengthen the foundation of African American employees at the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power by advancing the employment, education, economic, and social welfare of its members and the community." To that end, WPAAA's mantra is "Promoting African American Achievement and Higher Education."

"Awarding scholarships to deserving students is a great and meaningful way to recognize and reward them for their academic achievements," said Angela M. Franklin, treasurer of WPAAA. "During the review process, the Board takes into consideration the challenges students must overcome to reach their education goals."

The funding from the scholarship is derived from monthly dues contributed by the more than 300 members of WPAAA. "In accordance with the bylaws of WPAAA, we set aside 60 percent of the annual collected dues," stated Franklin. "This year, we are proud to distribute among 12 recipients a total of \$8,000."

The students are considered for the award

based on evidence of good character and promise. Each applicant is evaluated for past academic and leadership performance through application, essay, letters of recommendation, interview, and proof of enrollment. "The applicants are sponsored by a WPAAA member," said Leslie Sorhaindo, an engineer at the DWP and the WPAAA Membership Chair. "The sponsors also submit a written statement about the student's attributes."

The recipients were awarded scholarships ranging in the amounts from \$150 to \$2,000. In honor of all of the students who were nominated for a scholarship, WPAAA recognized the students at a celebration held at the historic African American Firefighter at 1401 S. Central Avenue in Los Angeles. Each student received a certificate and a 2006 calendar about South Africa.

Congratulations to the WPAAA 2005 Scholarship Recipients:

- LaVinna Gray
- Paul Bassard
- Cameron Mabrie
- Jason McCarty
- Jeffrey Rugley
- Angela Hunter
- Alaina Patterson
- Erika Bowman
- Ebony Daniels
- Winter McNeel
- Tiffany Maxwell
- Alicia Morehead-Gee

WPAAA also is proud of the students who received an honorable mention for their continued efforts to achieve higher education:

- Brittany Burnett
- Raymond Canty
- Halel Duberry
- Bridgette Forson
- Andrew Boston
- Anthony Walker
- Devin Jones
- Calvin Cressel
- Shea Dorsey
- Krystal Jackson
- Kari McCarver

For more information about WPAAA and other activities and events sponsored by the association, please log onto www.wpaaa.org. To learn about the African American Firefighter Museum, go to www.aaffmuseum.org.

Marie Y. Lemelle is a Senior Public Relations Representative with the DWP and can be reached at m.lemelle@att.net



Milton Jewell, welder at DWP and WPAAA Webmaster, announces a basketball tournament and challenged the fire department and the police department to play against WPAAA.



WPAAA President Marie Lemelle congratulates Harry Flournoy, 1966 Texas Western (University of Texas at El Paso) NCAA Champion, who talked to the WPAAA scholarship recipients about persevering in life. He is the husband of DWP employee Sukari Flournoy, a Customer Service Representative. The current movie *Glory Road* depicts the team's road to the championship.



WPAAA President Marie Y. Lemelle announces a partnership with Jason Seward, founder and President of Millennium Momentum Foundation, to provide a professional development workshop and other activities to benefit students in the community.



The attendees at the WPAAA Kwanzaa and Scholarship Celebration were entertained with Holiday songs by DWP employee Charlotte Magee and fellow singer Geanell Robinson of the group "God's Women of Treasure."



Fern Holmes, longtime WPAAA member and DWP employee, graciously poses for photographer Adell Brown.



From left: Dalila Sotelo, President, Fire Commission; Councilman Jack Weiss, Chair, Public Safety Committee; William Bammatre, Fire Chief; Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; Ellis M. Stanley Sr., General Manager, Emergency Preparedness Department; and Cynthia Ruiz, President, Public Works Commission.



Michael Hillmann, Deputy Chief, Fire Department.



Rev. William Briones.



Gary Lee Moore, City Engineer.



Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa.



William Bammatre, Fire Chief.



Cynthia Ruiz, President, Public Works Commission.



Dalila Sotelo, President, Fire Commission.



Ellis M. Stanley Sr., General Manager, Emergency Preparedness Department.



Firefighters of Station 4.



Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa greets station 4 Firefighters.



Jack Weiss, Chair, Public Safety Committee.

Fire Station 4 Rising

■ **Ground broken for new Fire Station in Civic Center area. Dispatch Center will rise next door to it.**

Story by Bev Haro, Club Counselor
Photos by Summy Lam, Club Tech Guru

FIRE DEPT. — Officials broke ground Jan. 19 on the new Fire Station 4, which will serve Little Tokyo, Chinatown, Civic Center, Olvera Street and Union Station. The site is on Temple Street, east of Alameda.

The new Fire Station 4 will replace an inefficient 58-year-old facility that cannot adequately address seismic safety, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, electrical, plumbing, Building Code, ADA, fire protection and separate gender accommodation issues.

Built in the days following World War II to serve a then-primarily residential 2.4 square-mile-district, the existing nearly six-decade-old fire station has aging infrastructure that predates and fails to adequately support common business and living systems, as well as the rapid response, operational and training needs of a modern day Fire

Department.

Fire Station 4's current service district has evolved into a densely populated residential, business, recreation and transportation hub that demands expanded service capabilities, and the current site is too small to accommodate a replacement Standard Fire/Paramedic Station.

The district population and emergency response activity for Fire Station 4 is expected to increase significantly in just this decade. New

Fire Station 4 will be an efficient and appealing long-term asset for all who live, work, visit and travel through Little Tokyo, the Civic Center, Chinatown, Olvera Street and Union Station.

The new Fire Station will be built alongside a new Fire Department Dispatch Center, Department Operations Center and City Emergency Operations Center that are being built concurrently.

These synergistic multi-role emergency response and support facilities will bring convenience and efficiency to a diverse and essential workforce that looks forward to not only serving, but being active in the community.

Designed to blend with the neighboring buildings, new Fire Station 4 will offer tasteful aesthetic features.



CLUB PHOTO FEATURE

Corp. Paul Roche, cousin of Leanne Niz, Clerk Typist, SRSSD, is a Marine Gunfighter with HMLA 369 Squadron, stationed in Iraq. He is shown here saying goodbye to his daughter, Janee, the day he shipped out.

The Club in the Armed Forces

If you have a family member in the military and would like to honor them in *Alive!*, please send in a photo and include their name, their branch of military service, where they're stationed, your City department, and any other information about them that you would like to include, to:

Alive! Military Service Recognition
City Employees Club
350 S. Figueroa St. Suite 700
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Honor Those Who Serve





Front row, from left: Linda Lanier, Sr. Personnel Analyst; Fern Johnson, Retired; and Kim Maston. Back: Adriene Murphy, Personnel Analyst II; Gina Tervalon; and Delphia Jones.



Front row, from left: Phyllis Yogi and Audrey Atkins. Back: Eileena James and Rhonda Dowdy.



From left: Dana Baker, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 18 years; Denise Verret, Assistant General Manager, 18 years; Cheryl Provinchain, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 17 years; and Donna Denning, Personnel Research Psychologist, 20 years.



From left: Paula Golfeld, Senior Personnel Analyst II, 32 years; Barbara Frederick, Sr. Personnel Analyst; Rashall Sanchez, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 5 years; and Marie O'Kelly-Green, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 15.5 years.

Goodbye, Jurutha

■ Jurutha Brown retires after 33 years in Personnel.

Story by Beverly Haro, Club Counselor, with information from Adriene Murphy
Photos by Sammy Lam, Club IT Guru

PERSONNEL — Jurutha Brown, a longtime employee of Personnel and a former General Manager of the Department, retired after 33 years. A reception was held in her honor Jan. 19 at the Omni Hotel downtown.

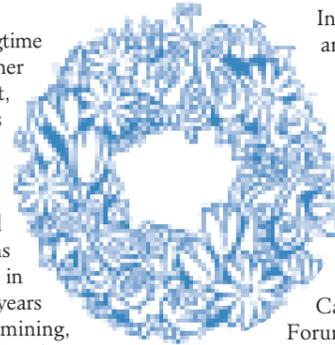
Jurutha Brown retired as a Chief Personnel Analyst in the EEO and Employee Development Programs Division. Jurutha has been employed in the Personnel Department for 33 years and has worked in the Examining, Classification, EEO and Employee Development, Public Safety Employment, Management Services

and Workers' Compensation Divisions and served for a year as General Manager of the Department.

Jurutha earned a Master of business administration degree from Pepperdine University and an undergraduate degree from Occidental College. She has been listed in Who's Who Among African Americans since 1985.

In addition to serving as a speaker and trainer on employee selection topics, she has held leadership positions in IPMA (International Personnel Management Association), IPMAAC (IPMA Assessment Council), WRIPAC (Western Regional Intergovernmental Assessment Council), PTC/SC (Personnel Testing/ Southern California) and NFBPA (National Forum for Black Public Administrators).

Congratulations, Jurutha!



Jurutha Brown and Battalion Chief Kwame Cooper.



From left: friends Edwina Brown and Gregory Sims.



Jurutha Brown with her daughter, Kiara.



From left: Linda Evans, Jurutha Brown and Mark Brooks.



From left: Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel Members Mignon Washington, Recording Secretary, 8 years; Laura Thomas, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 18 years; Sheila Darling, Sr. Management Analyst, 25 years; and DeWanna Sharp, Chief Clerk Personnel, 15 years.



From left: Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel Members Jeffery Whitmore, Revenue Manager, Office of Finance, 17.5 years; Susan Huntley, Chief Management Analyst, 22 years; Isophine Atkinson, Sr. Management Analyst, 18 years; and Steve King, Transportation Engineer, 25 years.



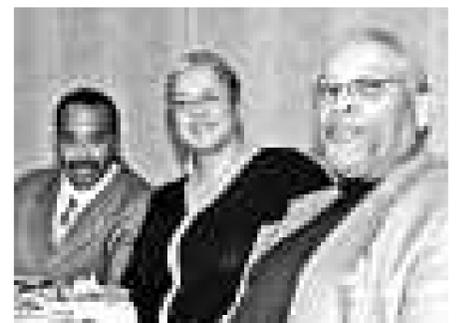
Front row: Jackie Zarate and Jeanie Molinar. Back: Cynthia Carter.



From left: Ray Allen, former General Manager, Personnel; Bill Fujioka, CAO and former General Manager, Personnel; and Maggie Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.



From left: Charlene Klein, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 30 years; Bea Lopez, Sr. Personnel Analyst, 18 years; and Lynne Nelson, Retired, Fire Commission.



From left: David Cunningham Jr., Councilman, Retired, with his wife, Sylvia; and Armando Hogan, President of the Stentorians.

For Retired Club Members



The Best Years

City Retiree Associations:

DWP Retirees Association



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

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: LACERS Fund Is at Historic High Level

By Phil Skarin, Publicity Chair, RLACEI



Legislative Update:

■ Ken Spiker, our elected Commissioner to the LACERS board, reports: "I have received many letters and phone calls regarding the condition of the retirement fund. The news media has been full of disaster stories reporting the failure of many private and public pension deficits.

■ "The City of San Diego has a \$2 billion deficit, and Orange County reportedly is in poor shape. Many private companies, United Airlines for example, have declared bankruptcy and transferred their pension benefits to the Federal Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation. Their deficit is reported to be \$22.8 billion. Local governments don't have this fall-back guarantee to protect their retirees. "Our fund has now reached an all-time high of more than \$9 billion and though only 76 percent funded, it is in no danger. Though private sector companies are reducing or eliminating benefits previously provided to retirees, I see no evidence of that happening to our retirees."

■ Membership Campaign: Helen Salgado, Membership Chair, expects to enroll several hundred new members as a result of the recent membership campaign, which should push us over the 9,000 mark. Great job, Helen. If you change your address, notify Helen at (323) 728-4930, or write to her at 5423 Dewar St., Los Angeles, CA 90022.



President's Report:

Ed Harding, RLACEI President, reports: I just returned from the Serra Retreat Center, which used to be for City Employees and their friends. There were several groups and some City Retirees there, but I plan to bring back all of past City retreatants, retirees and present City employees and their friends, Jan. 5-7, 2007.

What a beautiful place. It's high in the Santa Monica Mountains, overlooking the Pacific Coast Highway and the ocean. The sea was calm and it was so clean that Catalina Island appeared close by.

It was nice to see some of the men I knew when I was working, like Gil Gerakos, who started working with Mayor Sam Yorty and then became Supervisor Ed Edleman's Chief Deputy and ended his City career as Councilman Rich Alatorre's Field Deputy.

Also Al Alvarado, who was Field Deputy for Sam Yorty, and Art Snyder, who ended his City career as Coordinator for Olvera Street, which was part of El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Park. Al brought his son, Don, who is Vice President of Smart and Final.

Neil Dennering was also there. Neil was in charge of the Street Tree Division when I was in charge of the Street Maintenance Division. We both retired in the 1980s.

Our next General Meeting will be held on April 13 at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Citizen Center. Again we plan to have a great lunch at noon and lots of door prizes. LACERS will send Sandra Dysen to talk about medical issues, and Ken Spiker will bring you up to date on our Pension System. Please call one of the officers on the Retirees help line a week ahead to make reservations for lunch.

"I wish every one a Happy Healthy New Year."

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 the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center

Dec. 7: Christmas Party at the Grace E. Simons Lodge

The Best Years

ADVENTURES with HAL!



A band welcomes the adventurers in Lithuania's Klaipeda Theater Square.



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 (membership)	(323) 728-4930
• Americo Garza	(562) 928-2051
• Neil Ricci	(310) 394-1971

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers for 2006

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

Committee Chairpersons for 2006

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



On to the Baltics

■ Hal's Northern European cruise concludes.

Sailing south from St. Petersburg on Celebrity Cruise's Constellation, our last three ports of call were in the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. These are three countries you would visit only if you have relatives living there. Not because these are not interesting places: Each has a very interesting history and sites to visit, but it is not easy to get there. One of the advantages of traveling by boat is you can visit places that you need to spend only a short time to see the sights. These three ports fit that category.

Estonia is the northernmost and smallest of the Baltic States. It lies on the shores of the Gulf of Finland between Russia to the east and Latvia to the south. It covers 18,000 square miles and has a population of 1.5 million. Over the years the Danes, Germans, Swedes and Russians have controlled the country. In 1918 it declared itself the Republic of Estonia, but was taken over by the Russians in the late 1930s and remained in Russian control until it was made independent again in 1991. Our port of call, Tallinn (population 400,000), the capital of Estonia, is situated on the southern shore of the Gulf of Finland, 53 miles by sea from Helsinki.

We had booked the Tallinn highlight tour, and our first two stops after we left the pier were the Song Festival Grounds, where the Estonian song festivals are held every five years and the 1980 Olympic Yachting Complex. We also made a quick picture stop at the main telephone tower, where the uprising against the Russian occupation started.

The highlight of the tour was the visit to Tallinn's Old Town, which is the oldest remaining walled medieval city in Europe. We were able to walk along the ancient walls and had a great view of the lower town with its towers and steeples rising above the cluster of red-tiled roofs. We visited St. Mary's Cathedral to see the medieval coats of arms that are on display. After the tour, we stopped to do a little shopping and then hopped the shuttle back to the ship.

The next morning we docked in Riga, Latvia. Latvia (population: 2.3 million) lies between Estonia and Lithuania is about the size of West Virginia. Over the centuries it has been part of Poland, Sweden and finally Russia, from which it declared its independence in 1991. Riga, the capital (population 800,000), is on the Gulf of Riga and is divided by the Daugava River. It is the largest and most cosmopolitan city in the Baltic region, partially because it has more preserved Art

Nouveau building than any other city in the world.

We booked the Riga city tour, which was mostly a walking tour of the old city. This was one of our few rainy days, so most of the time we were under umbrellas. The town is very beautiful, with many interesting building and lots of churches. We were able to visit the Dome Cathedral and have a musical demonstration of the dome organ, the fourth largest organ in the world.

Our last port on this cruise was Klaipeda, Lithuania's only seaport on the Baltic Sea. Lithuania (population: 3.5 million) is on the Baltic Sea between Latvia and Russia and is slightly larger than West Virginia. This area of Eastern Europe has been part of Germany, Sweden, Poland and Russia. It became the first of the Soviet Republics to declare its independence, in 1990.

Klaipeda's claim to fame is it is the major ferry port between Sweden, Denmark and Germany. The ship docked within walking distance to the city center, and many of the town's people came out to see the ship. It was only the second time the ship has docked here, and the economic value of our ship was very important to the town. We had booked an afternoon tour, so we walked into town to see what there was. We found the town (theater) square, where a band was playing. It had a number of stalls selling amber jewelry. We later found out that during World War II, Hitler visited the town and spoke in the square. We continued our wandering and found a larger handicraft market and made a few purchases.

Our tour of Klaipeda Old Town and Palanga Amber Museum covered most of what we had already seen in our morning walk (on our own) except for the Amber Museum, but our guide did provide interesting information during the tour. The ride to the Amber Museum took about an hour, and we got to see a lot of the countryside. The museum and gardens are located in a resort town, which looked very pleasant. The museum is in the Botanical Gardens in a palace built by Count Tiskevicius family in 1897. While the visit to the museum was interesting, I really enjoyed walking through the gardens. On our return to old town we stopped in a beer garden (part of the tour) for a free glass of beer.

Of the three ports I think Riga was the best, but in any case I really don't think we will be visiting any of them again.



Hal Danowitz in the Tallinn harbor, with his cruise ship Constellation in the background.

We now had two days at sea until we docked in Dover, England. We really needed the time to relax as we had been to six ports in a row without a chance to have a little down time. The two days at sea gave us a good break, and by the time we docked in Dover we were ready for our short visit to London before returning home.

Getting off the ship in Dover was very easy. We didn't need to go through immigrations or customs because we had started our cruise in England, a Common Market County, and had returned from Lithuania, also a Common Market Country.

Our car and driver were waiting for us, and after a two-and-a-half-hour drive we arrived at the London Kensington Hilton. It was July 2, and we were staying until July 5. We got to celebrate the Fourth of July in England. It isn't quite the holiday there as it is in the United States.

On Sunday we decided to do a walking tour of the east end and follow in the footsteps of Jack the Ripper. I had printed out from the Internet a map to follow. We did the walk around Whitechapel and then stopped for a drink at the Ten Bells Pub, where Jack's victims were known to drink. We enjoyed walking around the area, which is now a Middle Eastern immigrant area. We were in the Altgate-East tube station, which was one of the stations that were bombed by terrorist two days after we were there.

We were able to get half price tickets to a London show and did a little shopping to round out our trip.

This was a great trip and a good way to see the northern European Baltic area. Celebrity is a great cruise line, and I would recommend them.

Next month I'll report on our family vacation to Hawaii.

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

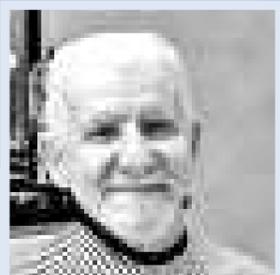
Retiree Question of the Month

Alive! asked retirees...

What is your favorite Love Song?



"I Will Always Love You"
by Whitney Houston.
— Margarita Garcia



"I Fall in Love With You Every Day"
by Frank Sinatra.
— Tommy Winters



"You Make Me Feel So Young"
by Frank Sinatra.
— Shelley Biafora

"A Little Dirt on Your Hands"
by the Deltones.
— Helen Bender



"Dream Lover"
by Bobby Darin.
— Jaime Mendez



"Come Fly With Me" by Frank Sinatra.
— Joe Fowles.

"My Heart Will Go On" by Celine Dion.
— Suzanne and William Nokian



"Cheaper to Keep Her"
by Johnnie Taylor.
— Jenny Riley



"Earth Angel" by The Penguins.
— Tom Hinkel



"Light My Fire"
by the Doors.
— Gerald Martin

"Que Será, Será"
by Doris Day.
— Jim Monroe



"I Only Have Eyes for You"
by The Flamingos.
— Maxie Trevor



"Oh Pretty Woman"
by Roy Orbison.
— Ron Gilroy



"Donna" by Ritchie Valens.
— Norma McDaniel

RLACEI MEMBER NEWS:

Doris Stuart writes, "When working for the City Clerk's office, I didn't travel much. Now I'm seeing places [mostly] in our Western states. I travel with senior groups – that's the easy way for me."

Thomas Meacham writes, "We have become avid R.V. travelers and go to rock shows and flea markets. In May 1998 we took the 'Rails to the Rim' ride from Williams. There had been a two-inch snowfall the night before. The Grand Canyon had been fogged in, but as we approached it, the fog began to part, just like the biblical story of the parting of the Red Sea. It was our biggest thrill!"

Virginia Dona, Palm Desert, writes "My husband, David Dona, passed away on Dec. 17." Dave had been the Engineer of Surveys and a good friend.

Jess Barley phoned on his way back from the St. Lawrence area of Canada, where his wife, Marie, has two sisters. Next, they'll head for Mexico in their R.V.

Daniel Jovanovich spends a lot of time babysitting his four grandchildren.

Encouraging comments:

- "Thanks for such a good job you fellows are doing representing us." – Tom Meacham
- "I appreciate all the good work you are doing." – Welton Wyrick.
- I enjoy your writings, Phil-osophy, poems." – David Ross
- "You are a journalist par excellence. I am looking forward to working with you again at our Golf Tournament on June 6." – Bob Okuda

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

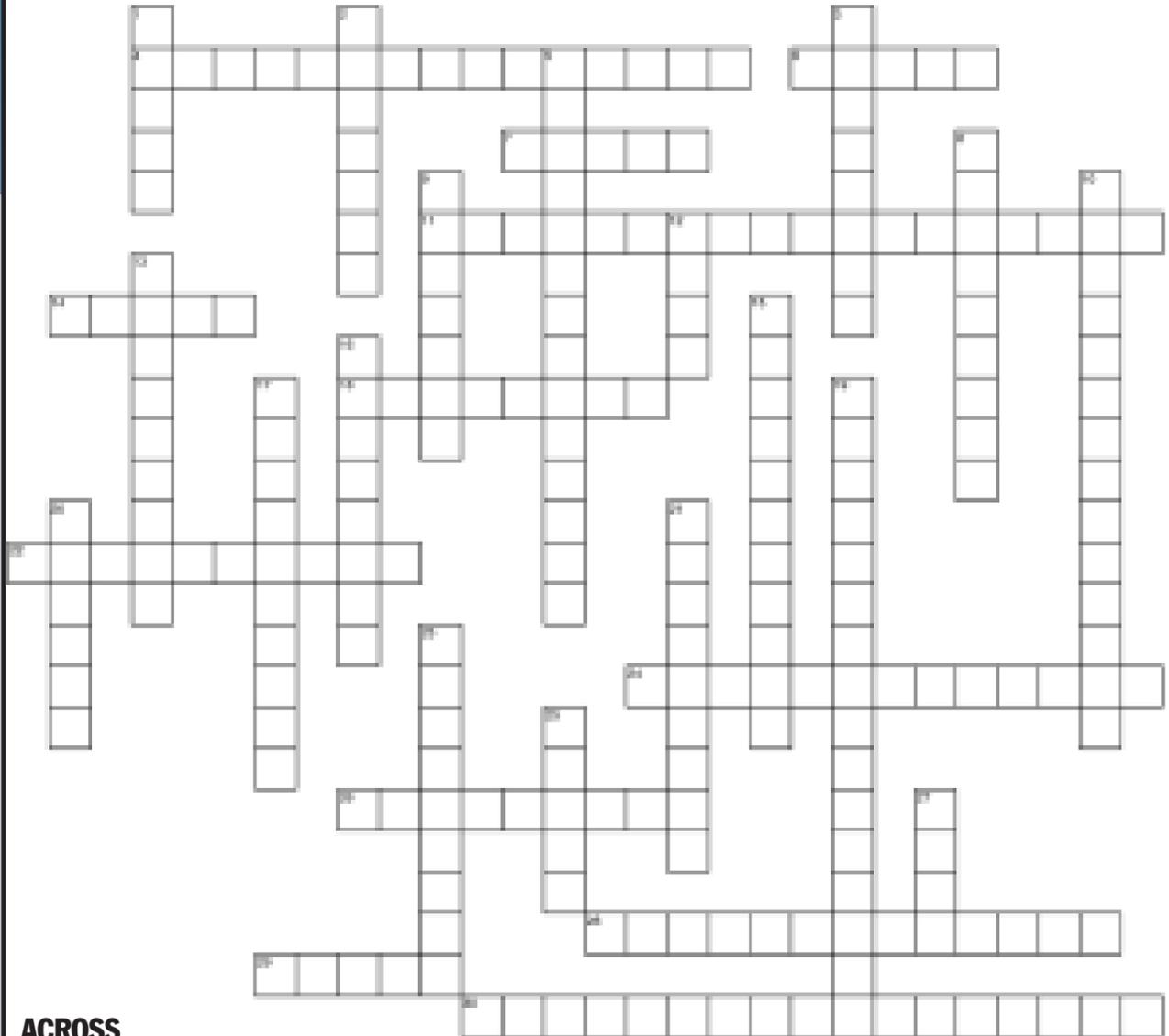
Phil Skarin
5301 Norwich Ave.
Van Nuys, CA 91411
or call (818) 784-0130

The Best Years

The *Alive!* Crossword Puzzle

Created by Club Events Guru Michelle Moreno

Grab your pencil, and let the fun begin!



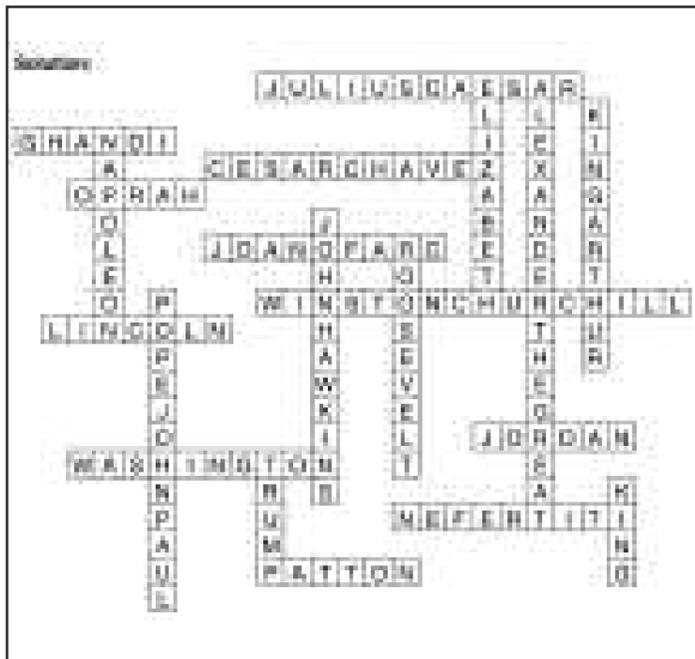
ACROSS

- 4. (2 words) Righteous Brothers hit
- 6. Symbol of love
- 7. Roman goddess of love
- 11. (5 words) Houston hit
- 14. 1990 film starring Moore and Swayze
- 18. Popeye's love interest
- 22. (2 words) Married to Yoko
- 24. (2 words) He fills the world with "silly love songs"
- 26. Deliciously sweet gift
- 28. (2 words) February 14 holiday
- 29. Club discount code for 1-800-flowers
- 30. (4 words) Joe Cocker classic

DOWN

- 1. Shoots love arrows
- 2. (2 words) Homer and Marge
- 3. ... better to have loved and lost...
- 5. (2 words) All I have to do is dream
- 8. (2 words) Film about Cavalleri and Barrett
- 9. Film about Rose and Jack
- 10. (3 words) Tragic Shakespearean love story
- 12. ...means never having to say you're sorry
- 13. Bonaparte's lover
- 15. (3 words) Unforgettable
- 16. (2 words) ... how wonderful life is while you're in the world
- 17. Film about Piccolo and Sayers
- 19. (3 words) "Inconceivable!"
- 20. (2 words) Comic created by Kim Casali
- 21. (2 words) "the greatest thing you'll ever learn is to love..."
- 23. Greek goddess of love
- 25. Fred Flinstone's wife
- 27. #1 flower purchased during February

Last Month's Answers



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

Today Is Tomorrow

We often have duties or responsibilities that we don't want to do at the present time, so we say to ourselves "I'll do it tomorrow."

We may use a variety of reasons to postpone them:

I'm too tired. I'm waiting for inspiration.

I have higher priorities today.

I'll do things that are more fun today.

If I wait long enough, the need may go away.

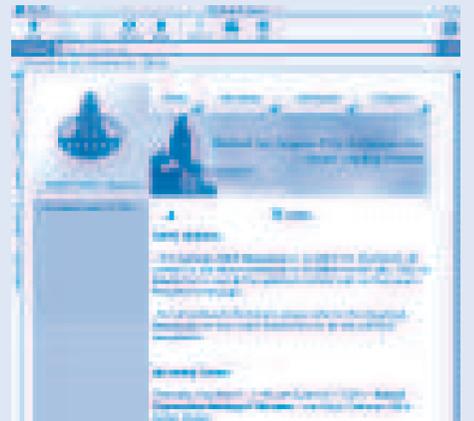
No one will know that I'm procrastinating.

The more we put things off, the greater will be the weight on our conscience

and will inhibit our subsequent actions.

So, don't be surprised, if someday you wake up and find that Tomorrow Is Today!

-- Phil Skarin, RLACEI



RLACEI Website

Hal Danowitz asks you to visit our Website at: www.rlacei.com to find out the latest retiree news.

Fund Razor



■ **Get your head shaved and raise money as part of St. Baldrick's fight against childhood cancer.**

FIRE DEPT., POLICE DEPT. — On St. Patrick's Day, Los Angeles City Fire and Police personnel will be participating in their third annual combined St. Baldrick's event. Participants, or "shavees" as they are known, will be collect-

ing pledges from friends and family in exchange for shaving their heads. The bald heads signify solidarity with child victims of cancer, who often lose their hair while undergoing treatment. All money raised goes to the St. Baldrick's Foundation and is distributed to doctors and other researchers on the front lines of the war on childhood cancer.

Participants and helpers are needed to staff this event. If you are able to help, please contact Sgt. Greg Doyle at Valley Communications. If you would like to be a shavee, you can sign up at www.stbaldricks.org.

- Who:** LAPD and LAFD Personnel
- What:** Fundraiser for Childhood Cancer Research
- When:** Friday, March 17, from 8 a.m. to noon
- Where:** LAFD Fire Station 89, 7063 Laurel Canyon Blvd., North Hollywood
- Why:** Raising money to fight childhood cancer
- How:** Sign up or donate at www.stbaldricks.org. Click on "Find an Event," and locate Los Angeles, Fire Station 89.

For more information, contact Sgt. Greg Doyle, (818) 778-4752, or LAFD Cptn. Waldie Brangham at (818) 756-8689.



Fire Marshal Jimmy Hill

Winter Indoor Safety Tips

■ **Fire Dept. offers these suggestions for staying safe this winter.**

By LAFD Fire Marshal Jimmy Hill

FIRE DEPT. — As the weather gets cooler, we need to think about indoor safety. Every year, we hear about people being overcome by carbon monoxide poisoning. I'd like to share some important safety information and tips so you do not become the next victim.

- When using candles, use caution and keep candles away from combustible materials.
- If you leave the room or go to sleep, extinguish all candles.
- Put candles on a sturdy base that will not burn or tip over.
- In case of power outages, have flashlights available. Do not use candles.



- Make sure your furnace is working properly. If you smell gas, call 9-1-1.
- Make sure to change filters regularly. If you have any repairs done, make sure they are done by qualified/licensed technicians.
- Keep space heaters at least three feet away from combustibles. In many cities, kerosene heaters are illegal to use.
- Do not use a hibachi, barbecue or camp stove indoors for heating or cooking.
- Never use your oven as a heating source.
- Carbon monoxide is colorless and odorless.
- When warming your vehicle, remove it from the garage immediately.
- Have a carbon monoxide detector. Check the battery monthly.
- If you have any of the following symptoms, you may have carbon monoxide poisoning: headache, dizziness, mental confusion or flu-like symptoms. Call 9-1-1.
- Have your chimney checked by a professional, and have it cleaned regularly.
- Make sure your fireplace flue is in the open position when using the fireplace.
- Always use a fireplace screen when the fireplace is in use.
- Allow all ashes to cool down before disposing. Dispose into a metal container with a tight-fitting lid.
- All chimneys should have spark arrestors.
- Never burn trees or newspapers in the fireplace.
- Have a working smoke alarm. Check the battery monthly.

Upon request, the LAFD will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure access to programs, services and facilities.

For more information, contact your local fire station, or go to www.lafd.org.



FUTURE SCHOLARS™

**\$1000 COLLEGE TUITION CREDIT!
FOR YOUR CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN,
NIECES AND NEPHEWS!**

**CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH TENTH GRADE ARE
ELIGIBLE FOR THIS PROGRAM!**

**RECEIVE \$500 CREDIT JUST FOR INQUIRING ABOUT A HOME LOAN.
NO OBLIGATION!**

RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL \$500 CREDIT UPON LOAN CLOSE.

REGISTER TODAY!



**323 222 2627
866 527 7222**

VISIT OUR OFFICE AT THE LAPD ACADEMY

www.Police-Fire.com

The FUTURE SCHOLARS™ Program is for participating colleges at the undergraduate level only. This program does not limit the choice of majors or fields of study. Normal admission standards apply. Students must be tenth-grade or below to participate.

Sponsored by Total Financial Solutions, Inc.

DRE #01392037



Holiday Wrap-up



Standing, from left: Maria Paredes, City Attorney, Legal Clerk; and Marino Paredes, Warehouseman. Seated: Arley Baker, Public Affairs Director; Jim MacLellan, Marketing Director; and Gwen Butterfield, guest.



Standing: Lt. Titus Smith, Port Police, Club Member. Seated, from left: Guests Liz, Cheryl and Charles.



From left: Chris Cannon, Consultant; and Donna Givens, Clerk Typist.



From left: Tracy Zuliani, HDEC Secretary; and Jessica Bautista, Dispatcher Port Pilots, Club Member.



From left: Christine Saunders, HPEA, Club Member, and her husband, Darrell.



From left: Dennis and Zoya Dyer, Programmer.



From left: Zoya Dyer, Programmer Analyst, with Jurica Ivcevic, Drafting Tech., Club Member, and his wife, Elsie.

Harboring the Holidays

Harbor Employees Club hosts holiday party.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor, with additional information from Guadalupe Diaz
Photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru



From left: Jae Rauhut, guest, with Rick Crowley, Port Pilot, and his wife, Ann.

HARBOR — The Harbor Employees Club hosted its annual holiday party Dec. 17 at the Harbor Hotel. It was a time for employees to celebrate with family, friends and colleagues.

The cocktail reception was sponsored by Port Police Association, with special thanks to SLO Dan Cobos. The centerpieces were by Christine Saunders. Music was provided by Lt. Titus Smith and Rickey Williams from the band Jamnesia. The DJs were Elizabeth Lopez from Public Affairs, with her sister, Marcie Lopez.

The Holiday Committee consisted of Crystal Bergado, Emma Gonzalez, Guillermo Martinez, Margie Hernandez, Sheila Gonzales, Christine Saunders, Mimi Gutierrez, Adrienne Fedrick, Geraldine Yu, Hilda Zavala, Joanna Rios and Velinda Meza.

The Harbor Dept. Employees Club Board consists of Mimi Gutierrez, President; Adrienne Fedrick, Vice President; Tracey Zuliani, Secretary; and Kyle Susswain, Treasurer.

Many raffles were conducted. The Club also donated prizes for raffle.

Many thanks to Guadalupe Diaz, Rene Rodriguez and Mimi Gutierrez for their assistance.



From left: Juan Benitez, Procurement Supervisor; Guadalupe Diaz, MA II; and Cris and Marisela Di Ruggiero, Legislative Representative.



From left: Karen and Mark Weisenberger, Storekeeper; Keith Gardner, Painter II; and Linda Morales.



From left: Elizabeth Lopez, Public Affairs, Club Member, and her sister, Marcie, provided part of the entertainment.



From left: Bruce Seaton, Interim Director, Club Member, with his wife; Pete Mattingly, Retired, Club Member; and Charlene MacKinnon, guest.



From left: Rene Rodriguez, Lead Carpenter, Club Member; Mimi Gutierrez, Civil Engineering Associate II, Club Member; and Tracy and Mike Newell, Electrician, Club Member.



The Club congratulates Darly and Martin Lovato, Electrician, Club Member, on their first wedding anniversary.



From left: Richard Lorenzana, Wharfinger; Tish Lorenzana, Sr. Management Analyst, Club Member; Juana Maria Gallegos, guest; and Juan Bautista, Animal Services.



Back: Rene Rodriguez, Lead Carpenter, Club Member. Seated, from left: Mimi Gutierrez, Civil Engineer Associate II, Club Member; and Terri Krystofiak, Consultant.



From left: Mike De Lang, Electrician, Club Member, and his wife, Mary; and Carmen and Albert Robles, Carpenter, Club Member.



From left: John Betz, Port Pilot, and his wife, Heidi Roberts.



Sgt. Ken Waekes, Port Police, Club Member, with his wife, Sue.



From left: Margaret Hernandez, Director of Contracts and Purchasing, Club Member; Daniel Aguilera, Consultant; Lynda Johnson, Sr. MA; and Rudi Fruth, guest.



Back: Nora Meza, guest. Seated, from left: Guadalupe Diaz, MA II; and Juan Benitez, Bureau of Sanitation, Public Works.

Holiday Wrap-up



Front row, from left: Martin Hernandez, Sylvia Pulciano and Larry Mottler. Back: Bill Lopez, Andrew Vejar and Brian Yoder.



From left: Mark Mariscal, Martin Hernandez, Andrew Vejar and John Martinez.



From left: Darryl Mack, Kenneth Crawford, Roger Rendelman and Peter Zendejas.

Rec and Parks Breakfast

■ **Rec and Parks Metro Region hosts a holiday breakfast.**

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

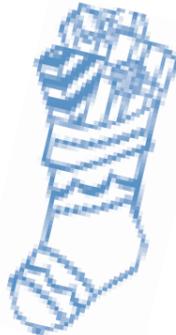


Ramona Hall staff, front row, from left: Judy Sokolowski and Monty Sutherlin. Back: Maydy Bran-Orona, Sebastian Completo, Alan Bran and Stanley Oh.

REC AND PARKS — Recreation and Parks Metro Region hosted a holiday

breakfast for its staff Dec. 16 at Ramon Hall Community Center.

Regional staff prepared pancakes, chorizo, omelets, sausage and beans for the several hundred people who attended the event. Mark Mariscal, Superintendent of Operations, thanked his employees for their hard work.



From left: Ademar Perez, Maria Lopez and Mike Zepeda.



From left: Jay Island and George Gonzalez.



From left: Johnny Barajas, Peter Amato, Sal Duarte and Bill Griebel.



From left: Marcy Gonzalez, Ed Seville, Richard Aguirre, Victor Flores, Harold Brooks and Marco Mora.



From left: Antonio Lopez, Mark Foster and Steve Darrow.



From left: Manny Zesati, Rozeta Everett and Art Gomez.



From left: Sandra Salas and Sonya Young Jimenez.



From left: Juan Rubio, Brad Torres, Gary Johnson and Tim Deaver.



From left: Jim Sipotz, Rick Aspen, Melvin Thomas, Junior Lopez, Sergio Lemus and Paul Kennedy.



Veronica Rodriguez, Supervisor, and Mark Foster, Facility Manager.



From left: Duane Palacio and Jose Ramos.



From left: Delida Fuentes and Sonya Young Jimenez.



From left: Anne Maese, Eloise Wickham and Mark Johnson.



Rec and Parks employees donate canned goods for the food drive.



From left: Jazmin Jimenez, Anna Marie Galbraith and Jose Madrrial.



Mark Mariscal, Superintendent of Operations, introduces his staff to Alive!



From left: Foster Burch, Clarence Wilson, Brian Rhea, Sergio Lambarri, Bing San Agugtin and Rudy Lopez.



From left: Rick Burrison, Richard Nieto, Al Varnas and Gus Sedano.



From left: Jose Lopez, Andy Ho, Sheka Stocker, Arlene Cordova and Al Ramos.



From left: Patricia Ewing, Raymond Castro, Daniel Martinez and Bert Burris.

Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Enrique Salazar, Club Member; Angela Collins, Club Member; and Rochelle Williams.



Back row, from left: Cynthia Ruiz, President of Public Works Board; Art Newborn, Division Manager; Debbie Kindred; Sandy Rodriguez; and Richard Lucus. Front: Diane Williams Green; Yolanda Fuentes; and Geraldine Rodriguez.



Caylin Tabbada Anonas with Santa Claus.



From left: Sandy Tyong; Kurt Sato, Club Member; and Terry Wesdy.



From left: Samantha Marine, Jacques Francois Marine, Kerney Marine and JonPieste Marine.

Holiday (Street) Lights

■ Street Lighting enjoys the holidays.

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

PUBLIC WORKS — The Bureau of Street Lighting celebrated the holiday season on Dec. 15 with a party.

Employees and their families enjoyed a catered lunch, games and lots of special gifts. Santa Claus made a special appearance at the party to take pictures with all the guests.



Back row, from left: Jon Santanello; Clinton Tsurui; and Fabian Cheng. Front: John Garcia, Club Member; Alex Salvador; Jessica Salvador; Raed Aboulhosn; and Win Pham, Club Member.



From left: Linda Taren, Richard Taren, Rewa Galindo and Dennis Tapert.



Front row, from left: Luis Morales, Club Member; Roy Martinez; and Sherry and JR Mora. Back: John Rendler; Linda Taren; Ralph Martine; and Bob Zamarripa.



A friendly competition.



From left: Joe Jaramillo, Felipe Rodriguez and Chris Mosman.



From left: Marnely Tabbada, Katya Belyayeva and Mari Gomez.



From left: Craig Chinn, Club Member; Frank Ayala, Club Member; Robert Williams, Club Member; and Ed Ebrahimian, Director.



Luis Lemus and Orlando Nova.



From left: Jose Salazar, Rosalba Santana and Santiago Salazar.



From left: Dave and Sean Rios.



Alec and Hagop Tujian.



Mark and Chelsea Lansang.



From left: Rolando Gacias, Club Member, and Steve Kerhmyer.



John Gonzalez and John Gonzalez Jr.



Evangelina and James Masud.



Back row, from left: David Ooi and John Ho. Front: Shan Yu, Michael Siregar and Maged Basha.



From left: Frank Simmons, Club Member; Moselley Victor; Ervin Weaver; Val Sosa, Club Member; and Jim Colleran.



From left: Ed Wasco, Mayra Wasco, Robert Fauntz, Linda Lewis and J.W. Weaver.



From left: Veronica Mendez, Andrea Mendez, Mary Jo McCord and Enrique Salazar, Club Member.



Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Otto Valencia, Pile Driver; Dave Little, Diver; Tony Espinoza, Diver; Wade Bliss, Diver; and Marc Mittry, Diver.



From top: Robert Jacobs, Retired, Street Maintenance; Maurice Jacobs, Construction Equipment Services Worker; and Matthew Jacobs.



From left: Renee Decker, Student Worker; and Vanessa Guillen, Clerk Typist.



Top, from left: Efen Beguico, Gardener/Caretaker; and Tsukasa Arimura, Gardener/Care Taker. Bottom: Juan Reyes, Gardener/Caretaker; and Omero Guzman, Senior Gardener.

Breakfast by the Sea

■ Harbor hosts annual holiday breakfast, including the famous calamari.

Story and photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

HARBOR — The annual Harbor Holiday Breakfast was held Dec. 22 at Berth 161.

The event was filled with great food – especially the freshly made calamari, a Harbor holiday tradition.

The Club thanks Joannie Mukai, Club Board Member, and HDEC (Harbor Dept. Employee Club) President Mimi Gutierrez for inviting us.



Calamari cooks, from left: Nikola Jurat, Ship Carpenter; Ante Basich, Ship Carpenter; Mike Sestich, Ship Carpenter – Lead Man; and John Radovcich, Ship Carpenter.



From left: Gabriel Gomez, Tendor; and Mike Dunn, Tendor.



From left: Mike De Long, Electrician; German Gutierrez, Electrician; and David Higgins, Electrician Helper.



From left: Ronald Aquino, Electrician; Miguel Camorlinga, Carpenter; and Lee Warren, Electrician.



From left: Marco Ceron, Gardener/Caretaker; Herb Galvez, Plumber; and Alfred Vasquez, Senior Gardener.



Holiday Breakfast cooks, from left: Joe Guzman, guest; John Short, Boat Captain; Paul Irving, Boat Captain; and Angel Jeronimo, Pile Driver.



Norman Arikawa, Chief Accountant, his wife, Noreen, and daughter, Ashley.



Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Alex, Omar and Leo Rivera; and Alvano, Heather, Dene and Raquel Garcia.



Arneldo and Allison Traje.

DWP's Annual Breakfast

■ DWP hosts annual holiday breakfast for staff, retirees and families.

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

DWP — The DWP hosted its annual holiday breakfast for staff, retirees and families Dec. 3 at the Ferraro Office Building. As part of the day, the DWP also hosted its annual car show. Employees and guests had the opportunity to showcase their cars with the chance to win some big prizes.

Raffle prizes were given out, and a mariachi band performed for the crowd. The Club donated movies tickets to part in the raffle.



A mariachi band performed at the party.



From left: David Taylor, Ed O'Toole and Herb Cook.



From left: Lucy Suazo, Marco Suazo, Jennifer Suazo and Michael Suazo.



Michael Figueroa, ERS; and Ruben Sagenz, ERS.



From left: David Kuzmicz, Asya Washington, Brandon Mercadel, George Higgins and Peter Kuzmicz.



Jose Canales with his dog, Belle.



Phyllis and Dennis More.



From left: Charles Shaubb and Dwayne Boyer.



From left: Frank Dobrovitz with Stephanie, Patty and Samantha Frasuillo.



Steve Stosser and Allison.



Anthony Calime and Tyjae Johnson.



From left: Sam Frankl and Tom Martinez with Tony and Donna Alvarez.



DWP hosted its annual car show.



From left: Ashley Scheder with Dawn and Brian Padovano.



From left: Roger Banuelos, Adriana Meza, Ron Donofrio and Dennis More.



Dwight King and Daisha.



Ralph Vgalde



From left: Pedro Geraela, James Henry and Noli Legaspi.



Bob and Sabrina Price.



The Arcas family, from left: John, Sam, Maria and Allen.

Holiday Wrap-up



Tenesha Dobine, Police Officer II; Leo Borja, Police Officer II; and the Central Explorers Post 1980.



LAPD Inspector General André Birotte Jr., Sergeant Steve Smith and officers from West Traffic Division.



Carlos with Santa.

DAPS Party

■ **LAPD Central Div. throws party for Deputy Auxiliary Police, hands out toys to the kids.**

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

POLICE DEPT. — The LAPD Central Division threw its annual Holiday Party Potluck for the DAPS (Deputy Auxiliary Police) Program Dec. 20 at the Division.

Toys collected from the City Employees Club were distributed to the children in attendance.

The Club thanks Sergeant Campbell and Officer Marie Kardiban for organizing the event and inviting us.



Jesus with Santa (Ofcr. Travis Jones).



From left: Sarah, 4; Melissa Hornby, Police Officer II; Dominique, 10; and Khaliyah, 10.



Estefania with Santa.



From left: Lt. Jose Garcia, DAPS Program; Sgt. Campbell, Club Member; and Capt. Juan Carlos Duarte, DAPS Program.



Moises with Santa.

Toys of Joy

■ **LAPD Inspector General and department employees bring holiday cheer to children affected by Sickle Cell disease.**

Story and photos courtesy J.B. Williams, Special Investigator II, OIG, LAPD

POLICE DEPT. — On Dec. 10, LAPD Inspector General André Birotte Jr. served as Grand Marshal of the Toys of Joy Run 2005 to benefit the Sickle Cell Disease Foundation of California. The roar of Harley-Davidson motorcycles and hot rods was nonstop as nearly 400 motorcycle owners filled Lincoln Boulevard in front of Bartels' Harley-Davidson in Marina del Rey to drop off toys for children affected by Sickle Cell Disease.

Police Commission employees Lourdes Zaldivar, Margie Grundy, Mark Smith, Joanie Smith-Hall, Charles Gaither and Brian Pellis handled the enormous task of collecting toys and registering the ride participants. As one could imagine, traffic could have been a nightmare. However, Chief Jimmy Price, Captain Betty Harris and officers from the Department of Transportation did an outstanding job of providing traffic control and keeping the area free of congestion.

Under the leadership of Sergeant Steve Smith of LAPD's West Traffic Bureau and Officers Ulysses S. Taylor, Michael Toth, David Benioff, Kingi Tai and Pat Smith, the caravan of motorcycles and hot rods was then escorted through the City on its 14-mile journey down scenic Pacific Coast Highway into the South Bay en route to

Ricky and Ronnie's '50s-style diner in Torrance. Rare Breed Motorcycle Club Road Captain "Mr. Dynamite" led the group the remainder of the way.

While at the diner, legendary hot rod pioneer Vic Edelbrock and his wife, Nancy, presented Community Service Awards to the Inspector General, Sheriff Leroy D. Baca, and local drag racing legend "Lightning Larry" Moore. The Sickle Cell Foundation of California also presented awards to Ms. B.J. "Mother Love" and the Rare Breed Motorcycle Club for their continued support and organizing the annual event. According to Foundation President and CEO Mary E. Brown, "This event would not be made possible without the support and dedication of the LAPD, community leaders, local businesses and the Rare Breed. We salute them for trying to make a difference in the lives of these children and their families."

Commander Kenneth Garner, Officer Darryl Scales and Officer Joe Dyer staffed the LAPD Recruitment Booth and promoted the Department's efforts to hire more officers. The booth and the presence of the

Department's Impala SS specialty vehicle were made possible through the coordination of the Commander's Secretary Renee Fletcher.

According to event organizer Ben Williams, the event was very successful. "We helped brighten the Christmas of each of the 120 children present. We gave them toys, coloring books, candy and food. We look forward to doing this every year, and nothing replaces the joy seen through the eyes of these children."

The club also made a donation of more than \$1,500 to help support the efforts of the Sickle Cell Foundation of California.

Williams said the participation of LAPD employees Richard Davis, who advertised the event on InfoWeb, and the Media Relations coordination and assistance provided by Tamryn Catania and Officer Kristi Sandoval resulted in a tremendous response from Department personnel and the public. Charitable Services Permit assistance from Detective John Roach and Investigator Donna Munoz ensured the charities activities were in order. Police Commission Vice President Alan Skobin coordinated a generous in-kind donation from Galpin Motors.

For more information on Sickle Cell Disease and its affects, please go to www.scdcf.org or call (310) 693-0247.



Personnel from the LAPD's West Traffic Division provided an escort for the Toy Run participants.



From left: Ingrid, 9; Alvely, 7; Sgt. Lewis; and Keely, 9.

Holiday Wrap-up



From left: Leicy, 5, and Brejae, 8.



Many line up for the toy giveaway.



Happy kids holding up their toys.



Hip Hop Harry had the crowd on its feet.



From left: Grant Lewis, DWP Field Inspector; Gerardo, 11; and Russell Pierson, DWP Civil Engineering Associate.



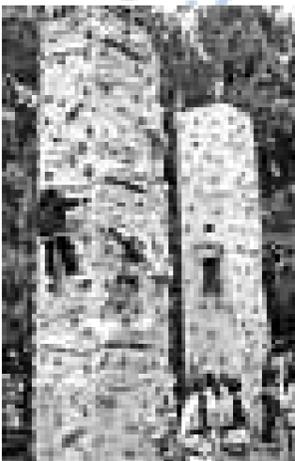
From left: Traffic Officer Thai Ngo; Los Angeles Police Chief William J. Bratton and his wife, Rikki Klieman; and Motor Officer John Morena.



From left: Michael McComas, P2, Club Member; and Sgt. Ernie Fischer.



From left: Christina Curiel, Volunteer; Cesar Corona, P3, West Valley; and Alexandra Machado, Volunteer.



The rock climb, a favorite activity.



Five-year-old Lucy visits PSR Natrese Thomas, Club Member.



From left: Natrese Thomas, PSR, Club Member; and Anthony Pacheco, Police Commissioner, with son, Max.



Celebrity guest Jenna Von Oy.

Something to Sing About

■ LAPD Centurions hosts annual toy giveaway and children's concert.

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

POLICE DEPT. — On Dec. 17, at the Police Academy, the LAPD Centurions baseball team, in conjunction with Living Hope Community Church and Genesis Entertainment, hosted the annual LAPD Christmas Toy Giveaway and Concert featuring Grammy Award winning recording artist Jamie Jones and others.

The theme was: "If you have, come and give; if you need, come and receive."

The toy giveaway and concert is an annual event produced to share love and kindness with the underprivileged children and families of Los Angeles and the L.A. Community.

The event was to feature a live concert by Jamie Jones, lead singer from the Grammy Award winning group All-4-One, and Hip Hop Harry. A fun zone was set up to include two rock climbing walls, face painting, public safety displays, an interactive game area, food, popcorn, snow cone, cotton candy booths, and a brand-new toy for every needy child present, all free.

Hollywood's finest were in attendance to

spend some quality time one on one with the underprivileged children of Los Angeles. Celebrity guests scheduled to appear included the Grammy Award winning group All-4-One, actor and comedian Wayne Brady, Kyle Massey (That's So Raven), Jenna Von Oy (The Parkers), Christopher Massey (Zoey101), Kristin Herrera (Zoey101), Corbin Bleu (Flight 29 Down), Lauren Storm (Flight 29 Down) and Rob Pinkston (Ned's Declassified School Survival Guide).

A tree lighting ceremony, which will include celebrities, VIP guests and event sponsors, took place prior to the distribution of thousands of toys to LA's most needy kids.

An additional San Fernando Valley Toy Giveaway and Event took place Dec. 18 at Mission Police Station.

The Club once again participated by providing prizes for the raffle and providing popcorn supplies to serve 1,000 attendees. Other City sponsors

included Councilman Alex Padilla, 7th District; Councilman Dennis Zine, 3rd District; Councilman Ed Reyes, 1st District; and the LAPD Wives Club. Special guests included LAPD Chief William Bratton and his wife, Rikki Klieman; Board of Police Commissioners Vice President Alan J. Skobin, Commissioner Anthony Pacheco and District 13 Councilman Eric Garcetti.

Special thanks to LAPD Officer Mike Scott for providing information.



Dolls were the number one choice for these girls.

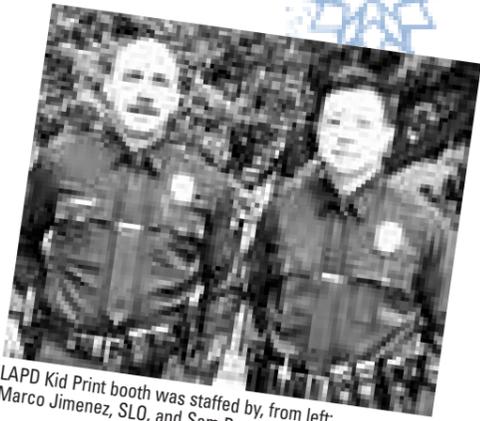


Master of Ceremonies Bobby Arias leads the children in singing Christmas carols.



Pony rides were an event highlight.

Holiday Wrap-up



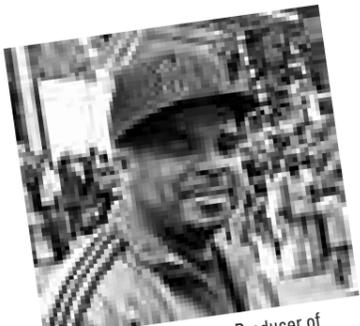
LAPD Kid Print booth was staffed by, from left: Marco Jimenez, SLO, and Sam Park, P2.



From left: Steve Weaver, an element member of the SWAT team, with Jon Darrah, SWAT Officer who goes by the name "Element Member Extraordinaire," pictured with Kevin, 15; Andrew, 10; and Jessie, 7.



Bouncers kept the kids entertained.



Claude Brooks, Executive Producer of Hip Hop Harry.



Walking away with an arm full of toys.



Barbie and games for her.



Table after table were piled high with toys



Officer Mike Scott with celebrities Wayne Brady, Jenna Von Oy and singing group Brothers.



Welcome to the annual toy giveaway and concert.



Celebrity guest Wayne Brady.



Police Commissioner Vice President Alan J. Skobin stops by wish everyone a good time,



Officer Mike Scott, with many celebrity guests onstage, announces that it's time for the children to line up for the toy giveaway.



From left: Bob Bean, Command Pilot; and Robert Harrell, Tactical Flight Officer.



Actor Tommy Davidson.



Together for the tree lighting ceremony were, from left: Police Commissioner Anthony Pacheco; Rikki Klieman; LAPD Police Chief William J. Bratton; and Councilman Eric Garcetti.



Holiday Wrap-up



Jeff Ramsey, RCTO, 14 years, and his wife, Marisa.



Jesse Cruz, Supervisor, 20 years, and his wife, Brenda.



From left: Kenny Lampton, Supervisor, 24 years, and Bob Potter.



From left: Supervisor Gilbert Palomares, 31 years, and Letty Gomez.



Ace Couch, RCTO, 15 years.



Dean Keene, RCTO, 8 years.

West Valley Celebrates

■ West Valley Sanitation Yard throws holiday party.

Story courtesy Paula Hofsommer, West Valley Yard
Photos by Cash Russell Jr. and Robert Potter

PUBLIC WORKS — The West Valley Sanitation Yard held its holiday party Dec. 3 at El Queso Grande in Granada Hills.

Special guests included Sal Miranda and his

wife, and Richard Miles and his wife.

Special thanks go to Paula Hofsommer, Clerk Typist, 16 years of service, for compiling the materials and providing the cutlines.



Eddie Cross, RCTO, 15 years, and his date, Alice.



Angel Macias, RCTO, 2 years, and his wife, Carol.



Gabriel Estevane, RCTO 1 year, and his wife, Lisa.



Elton Atkins, RCTO, 18 years, and his wife, Lisa.



From left: Supervisor Jeff Browne and John Diaz, RCTO, 10 years.



Paula Hofsommer, Sr. Clerk, 15 years.



Loreto Verdugo, RCTO, 14 years, and his wife, Maria.



Doug Adger, RCTO, and his wife.



Gifts and Prizes for the raffle.



Chris Gomez, RCTO, 16 years, and his date, Mary.



Richard Guzman, RCTO, 10 years, and his wife, Mayra.



Melvin Montes, RCTO, 1 year, and his date, Yvonne.

Holiday Wrap-up



West Valley Stepping.



Cash Russell Jr., RCTO, 10 years.



Manny Rodriguez, RCTO, 4 years, and his wife, Michelle.



Richard Myles, Manager, and his wife, Helen.



Randy Armour, RCTO, 8 years, and his wife, Betsy.



Neredia Santiago, Clerk Typist, 9 years.



Oscar Fergoso, AFLAC, and his fiancée.



David Mello, RCTO, 15 years, and his date, Maria.



Robert Potter, Supervisor, 16 years, and his wife, Kim.



James Bell, RCTO, 18 years, and his wife, Vickie.



Luis Alvarado, RCTO, and his niece, Natalie.



Damien Durham, RCTO, 19 years, and his wife, Romona.



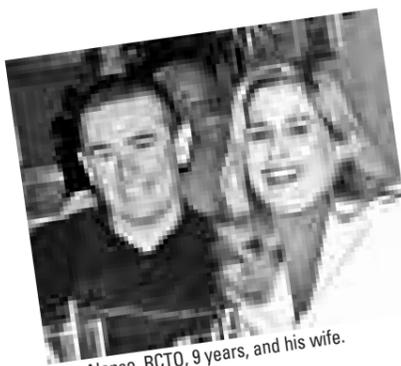
Sr. Clerk Paula Hofsummer "getting down."



The Clever Band, featuring Aerick Kendrick, RCTO, 4 years.



Tony Williams, RCTO, 15 years, and Clarissa Harper, RCTO.



Feliz Alonso, RCTO, 9 years, and his wife.



Elaine Poticar, Sr. Clerk, 5 years, and her date, Diego.



Juan Gomez, RCTO, 14 years, and his wife, Letty.

Holiday Wrap-up



Club Member Bonita Calloway-Smith and family, from left: Lauren, Lania, Danielle, Darnell, Jaelah, Dorian and Bonita.



Terri Stafford, CSR, 15 years, with her children Jeffrey, Asia and Brittany.



From left: Gabriel Ybarra, Club Member; Margaret Parker Griffie; and Gabriel's brother, Daniel Ybarra. All are CSRs with 10, 30 and 7 years of service, respectively.



From left: Christopher, Mathew and Rebecca with their dad, Stephen Solis, husband of Lisa Solis, Club Member, CSR.



From left: Shannon Lalande, Club Member, CSR, 18 years; Jahaun Jones, 15 years old; Gayle Warner; and Sabir Jones, 3, the little guy on the bottom left.



Sharon Keys-Kendrick, Club Member, Call Center Manager, 26 years.



Ivy Simpson, CSR, 7 years.



Gisselle Vega, CSR, 7 years, with her children Abby, Toby and Cohen.



From left: Kathleen Aragon (wife of Ricardo Aragon, Club Members, CSR), Isaac, 4, and Adrianna Aragon.



Robert and Lorena Ruiz with their daughter, Elisa. Robert is a Club Member and an MA II with 8 years with the City.



Welcome to the event.

The Holidays Were Calling

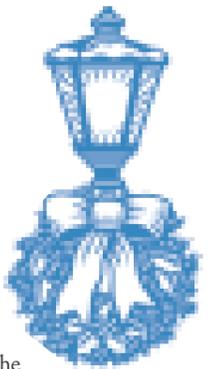
■ DWP's Customer Call Center celebrates with co-workers and family.

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Communications and Marketing

DWP — Employees of the DWP's Customer Call Center gathered with colleagues and family for a holiday celebration.

The party took place Dec. 23 in the John Ferraro Building.

The Club thanks Lisa Solis and Tori McNeel for their assistance.



From left: Ed Chavis, Club Member, and Douglas Mathews looking very fine and festive!



From left: Xavia; Breyona; Eric; Sean; Club Member Maricruz Vazquez, CSR, 12 years; Jeffrey; and Brittany.



Back row, from left: Norma Vela, CSR, 16 years, and her daughter Pearl, 11; niece Sabrina Avendano and (front row) daughter Dhalia.



From left: Andrew Chatton, CSR, 17 years; Alan Turkheimer, Senior CSR, 31 years; and Danny Nakasone, CSR, 10 years.



Eduardo Quezada, Club Member, Commercial Service Supervisor, 8 years.



Call Center Executive Kevin Shost, Club Member, with Mathew, Billy, Lamond, Collin, Asia, Kendall, Amber and Reuben.



Club Member Vilma Marroquin with her year-old grandson, Benjamin Gutierrez.



Taylor Jones, age 4, hard at work on the phones.



From left: Tori McNeel, Club Member, CSR, 17 years; Santa (a.k.a James Arterberry, CSR, 5 years); and Denice Ellis, CSR, 6 years.

UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE

Complete Your Bachelor's or Master's Degree in Business Administration

The University of La Verne offers class locations in the Los Angeles area for the Bachelor's or Master's Degree in Business Administration. Graduates in the 21st century need to have a broad understanding of business, good communication skills, ethical awareness, and an ability to deal with change. The University of La Verne Business Degrees address these needs.

- Academic Advisor On-Site
- Accelerated 15-week terms - Classes Meet One Night Per Week
- AA Degree Not Required to Begin Classes for the Bachelor's Programs
- Qualified Master's Applicants May Not Be Required to Take the GRE/GMAT

Now Offering:
Master of Science in Leadership and Management
Classes in the Los Angeles Area

Call 800.695.4858, Ext. 5221 for a
Personal Appointment or an
Unofficial Evaluation of Your Prior
College Course Work

UNIVERSITY OF LA VERNE
Jesse Martinez
jmartinez@uolav.edu
800.695.4858, Ext. 5221
Visit Us Online:
www.uolav.edu/request
www.uolav.edu/acc

Accredited by the
Western Association
of Schools and
Colleges



Knowledge • Service • Vision

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 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





Michelle on the Move

EVENTS 411

Cupid Works Overtime In February

Welcome back to Events 411!

I hope you had a great start to the New Year. So far, my year didn't start off so great due to painful wisdom tooth full extraction. Yikes! Good news is that I never have to go through that again. Now all I have to do is stick to my New Year's Resolution of getting into shape and eating better ... the same resolution I've had since Y2K. Then again, haven't we all had this resolution?

Well, enough talk of unachievable tasks (just kidding), it's time to discuss February and all the events going on.

First off, as most of you know (and some hate knowing), February is month of romance, love and overpriced roses (or a whole lotta chocolate in my case... yes, this goes against my diet). February is Valentine's Day (a.k.a. Singles Awareness Day for you singles out there) - a day couples look forward to and others dread. There are a few cool events occurring regarding Valentine's Day, including Woo at the L.A. Zoo, where you and your special someone can have wine and cheese and listen to a presentation entitled, "Sexy Beast." Doesn't this sound fun? If not, well I'm sure you can spend your evening dining out at a fabulous restaurant or having a candlelight dinner at home, or just sit at home by yourself, watching the DVD collection of "Sex and the City" with a bowl of popcorn, chocolate bars, a bottle of wine, and your cat, Fluffy. (My cat's name is Bucky). So however you celebrate Valentine's, I hope it's with someone special, even Fluffy.

However, if you find yourself not in the Valentine's Day mood, don't forget that February is Black History Month. There are several events celebrating black history, from arts and crafts at the L.A. Zoo, to the Pan African Film and Arts Festival to a dance presentation by the Children of Uganda at the Caltech Beckman Auditorium. There are several great events that you can attend that will provide you with an appreciation for the African American culture. Be sure to check some of these out.

Lastly, don't forget about all the great plays at the Ahmanson, Mark Taper Forum and Kirk Douglas Theatre. The group sales department has been kind enough to provide our members with group member discounts, so be sure to check out their advertisement on the next page.

Well that's it from me. I thank you for taking the time to read Events 411, and I wish you a wonderful February! 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.experiencela.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.

what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ?

February

*Events subject to change. Please call to confirm date and time information.
*Please note some events run through March

"Carnaval" Exhibit at the UCLA Fowler Museum

"Explore the revelry of Carnival festivals as they are enacted today in eight different geographic and cultural regions. This lavish exhibition presents approximately 50 elaborate costumes and numerous masks reflecting a range of masquerade and performance themes that represent traditions in these sites ... These unique celebrations and rituals are brought to life through photographic murals and short video programs of recent Carnival festivities in these locales..." (Website)

Date(s): Through April 26
Time: Noon - 5 p.m. (Wed. - Sun.)
Noon - 8 p.m. (Thurs.)
Site: UCLA, North Campus, Westwood
Cost: Free
More info: (310) 825-4361 or www.fowler.ucla.edu

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)

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
Cost: \$25 - \$75
Club Code: 6697
More info: (213) 972-2772 or www.taperahmanson.com

The Cherry Orchard at the Mark Taper Forum

"Anton Chekhov's final masterpiece showcases the writer's rich sensitivity to human nature in this brilliant and darkly funny portrait of an aristocratic Russian family in transition at the turn of the 20th century." (Website)

Date: Through March 19
Time: 8 p.m. (Tues-Fri), 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. (Saturdays)
2:30 and 7:30 p.m. (Sundays)
Site: 135 N. Grand Ave., Downtown
Cost: \$30 - \$55
Club Code: 6697
More info: (213) 972-2772 or www.taperahmanson.com

Pan African Film and Arts Festival

Enjoy one of "America's largest fine art shows, featuring prominent and emerging black artists and fine crafts people." (Official website) More than 100 quality films will be shown from all over the world.

Date(s): Feb. 9-20
Time: Vary; please call or visit Website
Site: Magic Johnson Theatre
Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza
4020 Marlton Ave, Los Angeles
Cost: Vary; please call or visit Website
More info: (213) 896-8221, 323-295-1706 or www.paff.org

Valentine's Silent Special at the Silent Movie Theatre

Does your special someone enjoy silent films? If so, then why not enjoy some great romantic comedies starring Buster Keaton, Charlie Chaplin, Harold Lloyd, Charley Chase and more. Each show even comes with live musical accompaniment.

Date(s): Feb. 10 - 14
Time: 8 p.m. (Fri - Tues)
1 and 4 p.m. (Sun.)
Site: 611 N. Fairfax Ave, Hollywood
Cost: \$10/matinee, \$15/evenings, \$25/Valentine's Day
More info: (323) 655-2520 or www.silentmovietheatre.com

Woo at the L.A. Zoo

"Bring your mate to Woo at the Zoo. At this scintillating, adults-only special event, you'll learn steamy facts about mating, courtship and reproduction in the natural world. Refreshments will include wine, cheese, delectable desserts and other decadent goodies. Animal expert and Zoo Docent Jolene Lutz, who has made appearances on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno ... will give an informative and humorous talk entitled 'Sexy Beast.'" (Website)

Date(s): Feb. 12
Time: 1:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Cost: \$75/person, \$125/couple
Site: Los Angeles Zoo
5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles
More info: (323) 644-6042 (reservations required) or www.lazoo.org
City Sponsor: Los Angeles Zoo

The Art of Love at the Latin American Art Museum

"Invite your love to an exquisite gourmet valentine dinner served with the best Latin American wine, then enjoy a lively presentation on love by Museum Director Gregorio Luke. He'll regale you with examples of eroticism in literature, from ancient texts like the Kama Sutra to contemporary authors. He will also discuss mythic lovers like Casanova and Don Juan and recite the most beautiful expressions on love in poetry. The evening will conclude with romantic music for dancing." (Website)

Date(s): Feb. 14
Time: 6:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Cost: \$65 - \$85
Site: 628 Alamitos Ave., Long Beach
More info: (562) 437-1689 (reservations required) or www.molaa.com
Thanks to Candace Herrera for the information!

The 39th annual California International Antiquarian Book Fair

"With more than 200 booksellers from around the world, book enthusiasts will enjoy the finest selection of rare books, manuscripts and ephemera. The fair will feature a special exhibit by the Autry Museum, visiting libraries and book arts demonstration booths. Special guest speakers will be conducting seminars on such topics as rare book collecting." (L.A.com)

Date(s): Feb. 17-19
Time: 2 - 9 p.m. (Fri.)
11 a.m. - 7 p.m. (Sat.)
11 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Sun.)
Site: Century Plaza Hotel
2025 Avenue of the Stars, Century City
Cost: \$10 - \$15
More info: (310) 277-2000 or www.labookfair.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." (Official 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



Black History Month at the L.A. Zoo

"Journey into the heart of Africa with ... a vibrant array of entertainment and activities. Musical festivities include performances by gospel, blues and jazz groups as well as African drumming demonstrations. Sample different foods and try your hand at special arts and crafts. Come celebrate the rich diversity of African-American culture and the wonderful variety of African flora and fauna." (Website)

Date(s): Feb. 18 - 19
Time: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Cost: \$7/adults, \$4/kids (4-12) - Club Prices
Site: Los Angeles Zoo
5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles
More info: (323) 644-4200 or www.lazoo.org
City Sponsor: Los Angeles Zoo

Ragga Muffins/Bob Marley Festival at the Long Beach Arena

"This two-day party is always a sellout and draws the world's top reggae groups (and often a Marley son or two) and those eager to hear the best of Jamaica's music. Plenty of food booths and vendors round out the experience." (Website)

Date(s): Feb. 18 - 19
Time: TBA
Cost: TBA
Site: 300 E. Ocean Blvd.
More info: (562) 436-3661 or www.raggamuffinsfestival.com

Children of Uganda: Tour of Light 2006 at the Caltech Beckman Auditorium

"Through dance and song, the Children of Uganda's exuberant and powerful programs tell the stories and history, the legends and beliefs of East Africa. Wearing colorful traditional dress, these young performers represent the abundant vitality of East African performing arts: songs of joy and sorrow; courtship, harvest and war dances; and accompaniment on thumb piano, xylophone, fiddle, panpipe and an array of drums." (Website)

Date(s): Feb. 24
Time: 8 p.m.
Site: Century Plaza Hotel
332 S. Michigan Ave, Pasadena
Cost: \$10 - \$25
More info: (888) 222-5832 or http://events.caltech.edu

Bones and Blues: Evening of Live Jazz and Blues Music in South L.A.

"Bones and Blues is an evening of live jazz and blues music, paying homage to the greats of both genres set for Feb. 24; it's been held on the last Friday of the month for the past five years. The stage is always the same - a homey old porch - but the performers change every month. February's guest has not been confirmed, but recent performers have included Linda Hopkins and members of Marvin Gaye's band, who presented a tribute concert." (Urbanmecca.com)

Date(s): Feb. 24
Time: TBA
Site: 10950 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles
Cost: TBA
More info: (323) 563-5639 or www.wlccac.org

Brazilian Carnaval 2006

Bring your friends along and celebrate Mardi Gras with the largest "Carnaval Party in Southern California." Enjoy a night of dancing, costumes, food, entertainment and more!

Date(s): Feb. 25
Time: Begins at 8 p.m.
Site: Queen Mary
1126 Queens Highway, Long Beach
Cost: \$35/general admission (\$40 at the door)
\$45/reserved table seats (\$50 at the door)
More info: (818) 566-1111 or www.brazilianites.com

World City Music Festival - Watts Prophets and Futa Toro

"Rising from the ashes of the 1965 Watts riots, L.A.'s own Watts Prophets evoke the contemporary African American urban experience through spoken word, performing what many consider to be the roots of rap. Futa Toro transports audiences to a West African village in a dynamic performance of authentic dance and music from Senegal, Mali and Guinea." (Website)

Date(s): Feb. 25
Time: 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Site: Walt Disney Concert Hall
111 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles CA
Cost: Free; tickets distributed at 10 a.m. on day of event.
More info: (213) 972-7211 or www.musiccenter.org/education/worldcity.html

The Great Air Raid of 1942 at the Fort MacArthur Museum

Come and enjoy the reenactment of "one of the most controversial events in L.A. history." Also enjoy live music, dance, food and more!

Date(s): Feb. 26
Time: 6 - 10 p.m.
Site: 3601 S. Gaffey St., San Pedro
Cost: \$15
More info: (310) 548-2631 or http://ftmac.org

2006 Lantern Festival at Olvera Street

"Come with your friends and family and enjoy a day filled with exciting live dance, musical and acrobatic performances! Admission is free. Afterwards, visit Southern California's newest cultural landmark, the Chinese American Museum, and enjoy a special free admission rate that day!"

Date(s): Feb. 26
Time: Noon - 7 p.m.
Site: 425 N. Los Angeles St., Downtown
Cost: Free
More info: (213) 485-8484 or www.camla.org

Race for the Cure - Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation

Run/Walk to help fight breast cancer by signing up for Race for the Cure. Event includes Health and Fitness Expo, Run/Walk/Jazzercise, and more. For each \$100 you donate yourself or raise through donations from your friends and family, you will receive a drawing ticket for a chance to win fabulous prizes.

Date(s): Feb. 26
Time: 7 a.m. registration opens
8 a.m. - noon: race
Site: Rose Bowl Parking Lot H, Pasadena
Cost: Fundraiser
More info: (626) 577-2700 or www.komenlacounty.org

March

Swan Lake at the Ahmanson Theatre

"Thrilling, audacious and totally original, Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake transforms one of ballet's best-loved stories into a stylish, witty, poignant, contemporary tale. Bourne blends ballet, style, humor, spectacle, character comedy and mime to create a provocative and powerful Swan Lake for our times." (Website)

Date: March 8 - 19
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
Cost: \$45 - \$85
Club Code: 6697
More info: (213) 972-2772 or www.taperahmanson.com

what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ?



Theatre Comes Alive
in Downtown L.A.
Join the Excitement!

AHIMANSON THEATRE

**THE IMPORTANCE OF
BEING EARNEST**

With Lynn Redgrave
By Oscar Wilde
Jan 17 – Mar 5, 2006

The verbally stunning, riotously funny comedy where four lovers find themselves seared in romantic entanglements only the sharp wit of Oscar Wilde could devise and resolve.

**MATTHEW BOURNE'S
SWAN LAKE**

Mar 8 – 19, 2006

This thrilling, audacious and totally original Tony Award-winning landmark transforms one of ballet's best loved stories into a stylish, witty, poignant, contemporary tale.

**DAME EDNA: BACK WITH
A VENGEANCE!**

Mar 28 – Apr 9, 2006

Dame Edna, the incomparable international housewife, magsister and guru brings her all-new extravaganza to L.A. for two weeks only!

MARK TAPER FORUM

THE CHERRY ORCHARD

With Annette Bening & Alfred Molina
By Anton Chekhov
Feb 2 – March 19, 2006

Chekhov's masterpiece showcases the writer's rich sensitivity to human nature in this darkly funny portrait of an aristocratic family in transition at the turn of the 20th century.

WITNESS

By Joshua Sobel
American Premiere
March 30 – May 21, 2006

An explosive and resonant play that questions our understanding and acceptance of war. What is a citizen's responsibility to his country?

Call for Details and more information.

GROUP SERVICES
213.972.7231

At the Music Center, Downtown LA

CenterTheatreGroup.org

WORKINGMATTERS

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



**Warning Signs of
Violence at Work**

The City of Los Angeles is not immune to the horror of workplace violence. It has happened in the City.

Psychotherapist, nationally recognized speaker, trainer, consultant and author Mark Gorkin (otherwise known as the Stress Doc) offers some key insights into workplace violence. He spells out "The Dirty Dozen" – key components of "A Dangerously Dysfunctional Work Environment:"

- *From TLC to TNC/ From Tender Loving Care to Time, Numbers and Crises.* An environment that "extols customers as kings while treating employees as peasants" is, according to Gorkin, a formula for revolt, inertia or sabotage.
- *Rapid and Unpredictable Change* results in an environment that breeds chronic uncertainty – a view fueled by management's failure to communicate in a timely manner. In the end, workers no longer perceive management's communication as genuine or accurate. An environment such as this is further sustained with unstable leadership and an unstable workforce to the point where rules and procedures no longer appear operational. (Picture workers on an unstable platform and you get the general idea.)
- *Destructive Communication Style.* Obviously, communicating in a condescending, explosive or passive aggressive way is destructive. So are "scapegoating" and managers talking over employees. Whatever it is, the end result is that nobody is listening. Nobody is truly "tuned-in." (Workers in a vacuum?)
- *Authoritarian Leadership.* (This says it all, doesn't it?)
- *Defensive Attitude.* This attitude happens in a workplace where only numbers count and feedback is disregarded. Workers feel disrespected or rejected and therefore deal with the situation in a defensive way: yelling, intimidation and avoidance.
- *Double Standard.* Different rules for blue collar versus white collar. Different rules for management versus employees. As Gorkin puts it, different rules for the Workfloor versus the Tower.
- *Unresolved Grievances.* A work environment with unresolved grievances is dangerous. This is especially true when grievances are ignored or unresolved to protect dysfunctional individuals because of contractual provisions, red tape, the old boy network union cover, etc.
- *Emotionally Troubled Personnel.* A work environment that fails to assist troubled employees in an active and timely man-

ner can be a formula for violence. Troubled personnel equals troubled work environment.

- *Repetitive, Boring Work.* (Need more be said?)
- *Faulty Equipment/Deficient Training* puts workers on the spot. The first scenario is an environment with poor equipment and procedures and workers who are criticized or blamed for not being productive (when this failure is a result of poor equipment or procedures). The flip side would be workers inundated with new equipment and operational procedures and not provided adequate time and resources for a successful startup.
- *Hazardous Setting.* We can all think up different things that contribute to a hazardous setting: problematic noise levels, temperature, air quality, nocturnal schedules, overcrowded workspaces, excessive overtime, repetitive motion issues, interrupted sleep and (above all) shortages in personnel that result in "potentially dangerous work expectations and conditions."
- *Culture of Violence.* A dysfunctional work environment is one that fosters a culture of violence. It harbors alcohol and drug abusers, individuals with histories of violence and "employees with lingering Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder."

The City of Los Angeles has a Workplace Violence Policy. It is committed to maintaining a workplace free from violence or threats of violence. The policy covers just about every behavior that can even be perceived as violent: from verbally abusive or intimidating language or gestures to the unauthorized possession of weapons at the workplace. However, for the City to accomplish its objectives, it does need the "open and full support of management at all levels throughout the City." (People create the environment, right?) Each Department has been directed to address the issue of workplace violence by providing training and programs to prevent and respond to potential incidents of violence.

In the end, it is up to you and me. We make our work environment – with the help of or in spite of management. If there is something that needs to happen, then the onus is upon each and every one of us to step up to the plate. The City has programs and all kinds of resources available. We need to take advantage of those resources to protect each other and ourselves.

Write this number down and tuck it away in your wallet: City of Los Angeles Employee Assistance Program: (866) 277-5384. You'll never know when you may need it.



**Valentine's
Jewelry Sale**

LAPD Communications Fundraiser

Mark Duke, Inc. Jewelry
Diamonds • Yellow Gold • White Gold

RINGS ▣ EARRINGS ▣ BRACELETS ▣ NECKLACES
ANKLETS ▣ PENDANTS ▣ WATCHES

Wednesday, February 8th
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Parker Center - In Front of Auditorium
1150 N. Los Angeles Street - Downtown

No-interest payment plans.
VISA/MC, Checks



Retired Sgt. Leonard Valentine.



From left: Mr. Gleason, Sgt. Leonard Valentine, Sam Pittman and Sgt. Brian Johnson.



From left: Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Lt. Curtis Johnson.



Everyone has a good time down the "Soul Train" line.

Goodbye, Leonard

■ **Legendary Sgt. Leonard Valentine retires from Airport Police after 45 years of City service.**

Story by Officer Belinda Nettles, Airport Police
Photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor, and Airport Police staff



From left: Sgt. Al Turner and Sgt. Leonard Valentine. Madeleine Flanagan and Sgt. Leonard Valentine.



Latasha Amerson and Sgt. Leonard Valentine.



AIRPORTS — Sgt. Leonard Valentine retired Dec. 2 after 45 years of City service with the Los Angeles Airport Police. He was the longest serving officer with the department.

He was the longest-serving officer on the force.

A reception was held in his honor Dec. 2 at the Hacienda Hotel near LAX.

Sgt. Valentine was born Nov. 28, 1930, in Baltimore, Md. He served in the Navy from 1950-55 in the Korean War and in Japan for 3.5 years.

He started his career with the City of Los



Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Ofcr. Rose Crutchfield.

Angeles in 1960 as a jailer with Los Angeles Police Department and in 1962 became an airport special officer at Los Angeles International Airport.

In 1979 he was promoted to Sergeant in Boarding Services and in 1982 was promoted to Airport Police Sergeant, assigned to the Patrol Services Division until 1986. In 1986 until 1999 he worked dual duty as the Sergeant over the Airport Police Range and Fleet and Facilities.

Toward the end of his career, from 2001-05, Sgt. Valentine continued to serve as the Airport Police Range Sergeant until his retirement.

Congratulations, Sgt. Valentine, and enjoy your much-deserved retirement.



From left: Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Lt. Curtis Thomson.

The DJ, Sgt. Hopkins.



Sgt. Richard Higgins sings Sgt. Leonard Valentine a farewell song.



From left: Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Sgt. Michael Edwards.

Sgt. Beulah Williams and Sgt. Leonard Valentine.

Congratulations!



Sgt. Valentine; his son, Scott; and Scott's fiancé.



Marching Honor Guards.



From left: Nancy Thompson; Sgt. Leonard Valentine; and Sgt. Mattie Thompson.



Ofcr. Lenny Watts with Sgt. Leonard Valentine.



From left: Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Chief Brian Walker.



From left: Lt. Nixon, Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Sgt. Brian Johnson.



From left: Kaye Beechum, Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Joy Park.



From left: Capt. LaPonda Fitchpatrick with Sgt. Leonard Valentine.



From left: Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Capt. Larry Gray.



From left: Sgt. Leonard Valentine, Ofcr. Belinda Nettles and Sgt. Al Turner.



Sgt. Alice Jackson and Paula Dutton present Sgt. Leonard Valentine with a special gift.



From left: Longtime friend Al Turner congratulates Sgt. Leonard Valentine.



Sgt. Leonard Valentine poses with his administrative staff Sharon Hudson, Virginia Cormier and Alina McDowell.



From left: Phyliss Massey and Sharon Hudson.



From left: Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Lt. James Chin.



Sgt. Louie Hoffman and Lt. James Chin.



Airport Police Officers salute Sgt. Leonard Valentine as he enters the party.



From left: Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Chief Ronald Boyd, Los Angeles Port Police.



From left: Sgt. Leonard Valentine and Sgt. Duran.



Save up to 20% with your eyes closed.

How about an affordable vacation? Saving is so easy with the Best Western Member Value Program, you can do it with your eyes closed. Simply call the MYP reservations number below. Mention the City Employee's Club MYP number 00150810, and save up to 20% at more than 4,000 Best Western hotels worldwide. Have a safe trip.



THE WORLD'S LARGEST HOTEL CHAIN™

MYP reservations 1-800-441-1114

Some Best Western hotels do not participate in the MYP program. Savings may be capped and may vary by location. MYP cannot be used in conjunction with any other discounts, promotions or special offers. Not applicable to group rates. Book by 11:59 PM PST on the day before travel. Rates are guaranteed based on availability. Advance booking and payment required. Travel restrictions may apply. ©2005 Best Western International, Inc.

Our CUSO Services Save Time and \$'s



Insurance Programs



Home Search & Commission Rebates



Travel Discounts



Pre-Paid Legal Plan



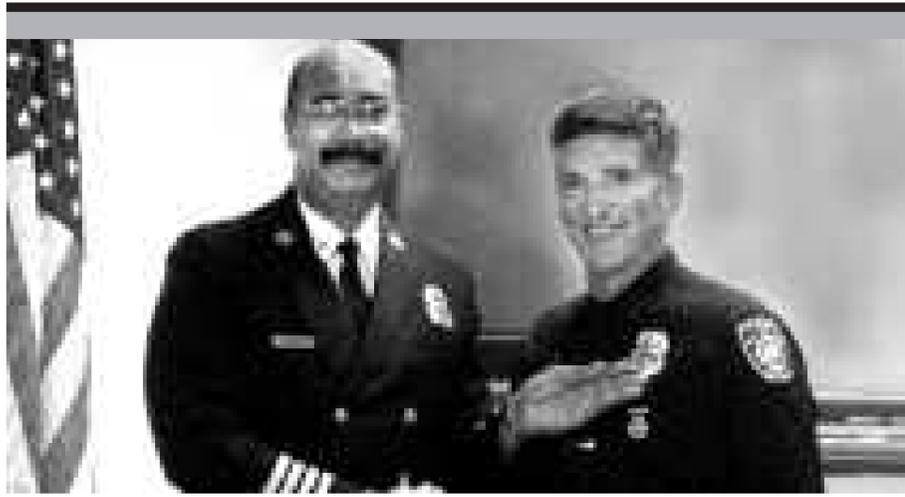
Vehicle Searching & Buying

*Credit Union Services Organization

For more info, call us or visit www.lafcu.org



Los Angeles Federal Credit Union (F.C.U.) Box 20000 • Los Angeles, CA 90020
 Tel: (213) 694-8900 • (213) 694-8901 • (213) 694-8902 • (213) 694-8903 • (213) 694-8904 • (213) 694-8905 • (213) 694-8906 • (213) 694-8907 • (213) 694-8908 • (213) 694-8909 • (213) 694-8910 • (213) 694-8911 • (213) 694-8912 • (213) 694-8913 • (213) 694-8914 • (213) 694-8915 • (213) 694-8916 • (213) 694-8917 • (213) 694-8918 • (213) 694-8919 • (213) 694-8920 • (213) 694-8921 • (213) 694-8922 • (213) 694-8923 • (213) 694-8924 • (213) 694-8925 • (213) 694-8926 • (213) 694-8927 • (213) 694-8928 • (213) 694-8929 • (213) 694-8930 • (213) 694-8931 • (213) 694-8932 • (213) 694-8933 • (213) 694-8934 • (213) 694-8935 • (213) 694-8936 • (213) 694-8937 • (213) 694-8938 • (213) 694-8939 • (213) 694-8940 • (213) 694-8941 • (213) 694-8942 • (213) 694-8943 • (213) 694-8944 • (213) 694-8945 • (213) 694-8946 • (213) 694-8947 • (213) 694-8948 • (213) 694-8949 • (213) 694-8950 • (213) 694-8951 • (213) 694-8952 • (213) 694-8953 • (213) 694-8954 • (213) 694-8955 • (213) 694-8956 • (213) 694-8957 • (213) 694-8958 • (213) 694-8959 • (213) 694-8960 • (213) 694-8961 • (213) 694-8962 • (213) 694-8963 • (213) 694-8964 • (213) 694-8965 • (213) 694-8966 • (213) 694-8967 • (213) 694-8968 • (213) 694-8969 • (213) 694-8970 • (213) 694-8971 • (213) 694-8972 • (213) 694-8973 • (213) 694-8974 • (213) 694-8975 • (213) 694-8976 • (213) 694-8977 • (213) 694-8978 • (213) 694-8979 • (213) 694-8980 • (213) 694-8981 • (213) 694-8982 • (213) 694-8983 • (213) 694-8984 • (213) 694-8985 • (213) 694-8986 • (213) 694-8987 • (213) 694-8988 • (213) 694-8989 • (213) 694-8990 • (213) 694-8991 • (213) 694-8992 • (213) 694-8993 • (213) 694-8994 • (213) 694-8995 • (213) 694-8996 • (213) 694-8997 • (213) 694-8998 • (213) 694-8999 • (213) 694-9000 • (213) 694-9001 • (213) 694-9002 • (213) 694-9003 • (213) 694-9004 • (213) 694-9005 • (213) 694-9006 • (213) 694-9007 • (213) 694-9008 • (213) 694-9009 • (213) 694-9010 • (213) 694-9011 • (213) 694-9012 • (213) 694-9013 • (213) 694-9014 • (213) 694-9015 • (213) 694-9016 • (213) 694-9017 • (213) 694-9018 • (213) 694-9019 • (213) 694-9020 • (213) 694-9021 • (213) 694-9022 • (213) 694-9023 • (213) 694-9024 • (213) 694-9025 • (213) 694-9026 • (213) 694-9027 • (213) 694-9028 • (213) 694-9029 • (213) 694-9030 • (213) 694-9031 • (213) 694-9032 • (213) 694-9033 • (213) 694-9034 • (213) 694-9035 • (213) 694-9036 • (213) 694-9037 • (213) 694-9038 • (213) 694-9039 • (213) 694-9040 • (213) 694-9041 • (213) 694-9042 • (213) 694-9043 • (213) 694-9044 • (213) 694-9045 • (213) 694-9046 • (213) 694-9047 • (213) 694-9048 • (213) 694-9049 • (213) 694-9050 • (213) 694-9051 • (213) 694-9052 • (213) 694-9053 • (213) 694-9054 • (213) 694-9055 • (213) 694-9056 • (213) 694-9057 • (213) 694-9058 • (213) 694-9059 • (213) 694-9060 • (213) 694-9061 • (213) 694-9062 • (213) 694-9063 • (213) 694-9064 • (213) 694-9065 • (213) 694-9066 • (213) 694-9067 • (213) 694-9068 • (213) 694-9069 • (213) 694-9070 • (213) 694-9071 • (213) 694-9072 • (213) 694-9073 • (213) 694-9074 • (213) 694-9075 • (213) 694-9076 • (213) 694-9077 • (213) 694-9078 • (213) 694-9079 • (213) 694-9080 • (213) 694-9081 • (213) 694-9082 • (213) 694-9083 • (213) 694-9084 • (213) 694-9085 • (213) 694-9086 • (213) 694-9087 • (213) 694-9088 • (213) 694-9089 • (213) 694-9090 • (213) 694-9091 • (213) 694-9092 • (213) 694-9093 • (213) 694-9094 • (213) 694-9095 • (213) 694-9096 • (213) 694-9097 • (213) 694-9098 • (213) 694-9099 • (213) 694-9100 • (213) 694-9101 • (213) 694-9102 • (213) 694-9103 • (213) 694-9104 • (213) 694-9105 • (213) 694-9106 • (213) 694-9107 • (213) 694-9108 • (213) 694-9109 • (213) 694-9110 • (213) 694-9111 • (213) 694-9112 • (213) 694-9113 • (213) 694-9114 • (213) 694-9115 • (213) 694-9116 • (213) 694-9117 • (213) 694-9118 • (213) 694-9119 • (213) 694-9120 • (213) 694-9121 • (213) 694-9122 • (213) 694-9123 • (213) 694-9124 • (213) 694-9125 • (213) 694-9126 • (213) 694-9127 • (213) 694-9128 • (213) 694-9129 • (213) 694-9130 • (213) 694-9131 • (213) 694-9132 • (213) 694-9133 • (213) 694-9134 • (213) 694-9135 • (213) 694-9136 • (213) 694-9137 • (213) 694-9138 • (213) 694-9139 • (213) 694-9140 • (213) 694-9141 • (213) 694-9142 • (213) 694-9143 • (213) 694-9144 • (213) 694-9145 • (213) 694-9146 • (213) 694-9147 • (213) 694-9148 • (213) 694-9149 • (213) 694-9150 • (213) 694-9151 • (213) 694-9152 • (213) 694-9153 • (213) 694-9154 • (213) 694-9155 • (213) 694-9156 • (213) 694-9157 • (213) 694-9158 • (213) 694-9159 • (213) 694-9160 • (213) 694-9161 • (213) 694-9162 • (213) 694-9163 • (213) 694-9164 • (213) 694-9165 • (213) 694-9166 • (213) 694-9167 • (213) 694-9168 • (213) 694-9169 • (213) 694-9170 • (213) 694-9171 • (213) 694-9172 • (213) 694-9173 • (213) 694-9174 • (213) 694-9175 • (213) 694-9176 • (213) 694-9177 • (213) 694-9178 • (213) 694-9179 • (213) 694-9180 • (213) 694-9181 • (213) 694-9182 • (213) 694-9183 • (213) 694-9184 • (213) 694-9185 • (213) 694-9186 • (213) 694-9187 • (213) 694-9188 • (213) 694-9189 • (213) 694-9190 • (213) 694-9191 • (213) 694-9192 • (213) 694-9193 • (213) 694-9194 • (213) 694-9195 • (213) 694-9196 • (213) 694-9197 • (213) 694-9198 • (213) 694-9199 • (213) 694-9200 • (213) 694-9201 • (213) 694-9202 • (213) 694-9203 • (213) 694-9204 • (213) 694-9205 • (213) 694-9206 • (213) 694-9207 • (213) 694-9208 • (213) 694-9209 • (213) 694-9210 • (213) 694-9211 • (213) 694-9212 • (213) 694-9213 • (213) 694-9214 • (213) 694-9215 • (213) 694-9216 • (213) 694-9217 • (213) 694-9218 • (213) 694-9219 • (213) 694-9220 • (213) 694-9221 • (213) 694-9222 • (213) 694-9223 • (213) 694-9224 • (213) 694-9225 • (213) 694-9226 • (213) 694-9227 • (213) 694-9228 • (213) 694-9229 • (213) 694-9230 • (213) 694-9231 • (213) 694-9232 • (213) 694-9233 • (213) 694-9234 • (213) 694-9235 • (213) 694-9236 • (213) 694-9237 • (213) 694-9238 • (213) 694-9239 • (213) 694-9240 • (213) 694-9241 • (213) 694-9242 • (213) 694-9243 • (213) 694-9244 • (213) 694-9245 • (213) 694-9246 • (213) 694-9247 • (213) 694-9248 • (213) 694-9249 • (213) 694-9250 • (213) 694-9251 • (213) 694-9252 • (213) 694-9253 • (213) 694-9254 • (213) 694-9255 • (213) 694-9256 • (213) 694-9257 • (213) 694-9258 • (213) 694-9259 • (213) 694-9260 • (213) 694-9261 • (213) 694-9262 • (213) 694-9263 • (213) 694-9264 • (213) 694-9265 • (213) 694-9266 • (213) 694-9267 • (213) 694-9268 • (213) 694-9269 • (213) 694-9270 • (213) 694-9271 • (213) 694-9272 • (213) 694-9273 • (213) 694-9274 • (213) 694-9275 • (213) 694-9276 • (213) 694-9277 • (213) 694-9278 • (213) 694-9279 • (213) 694-9280 • (213) 694-9281 • (213) 694-9282 • (213) 694-9283 • (213) 694-9284 • (213) 694-9285 • (213) 694-9286 • (213) 694-9287 • (213) 694-9288 • (213) 694-9289 • (213) 694-9290 • (213) 694-9291 • (213) 694-9292 • (213) 694-9293 • (213) 694-9294 • (213) 694-9295 • (213) 694-9296 • (213) 694-9297 • (213) 694-9298 • (213) 694-9299 • (213) 694-9300 • (213) 694-9301 • (213) 694-9302 • (213) 694-9303 • (213) 694-9304 • (213) 694-9305 • (213) 694-9306 • (213) 694-9307 • (213) 694-9308 • (213) 694-9309 • (213) 694-9310 • (213) 694-9311 • (213) 694-9312 • (213) 694-9313 • (213) 694-9314 • (213) 694-9315 • (213) 694-9316 • (213) 694-9317 • (213) 694-9318 • (213) 694-9319 • (213) 694-9320 • (213) 694-9321 • (213) 694-9322 • (213) 694-9323 • (213) 694-9324 • (213) 694-9325 • (213) 694-9326 • (213) 694-9327 • (213) 694-9328 • (213) 694-9329 • (213) 694-9330 • (213) 694-9331 • (213) 694-9332 • (213) 694-9333 • (213) 694-9334 • (213) 694-9335 • (213) 694-9336 • (213) 694-9337 • (213) 694-9338 • (213) 694-9339 • (213) 694-9340 • (213) 694-9341 • (213) 694-9342 • (213) 694-9343 • (213) 694-9344 • (213) 694-9345 • (213) 694-9346 • (213) 694-9347 • (213) 694-9348 • (213) 694-9349 • (213) 694-9350 • (213) 694-9351 • (213) 694-9352 • (213) 694-9353 • (213) 694-9354 • (213) 694-9355 • (213) 694-9356 • (213) 694-9357 • (213) 694-9358 • (213) 694-9359 • (213) 694-9360 • (213) 694-9361 • (213) 694-9362 • (213) 694-9363 • (213) 694-9364 • (213) 694-9365 • (213) 694-9366 • (213) 694-9367 • (213) 694-9368 • (213) 694-9369 • (213) 694-9370 • (213) 694-9371 • (213) 694-9372 • (213) 694-9373 • (213) 694-9374 • (213) 694-9375 • (213) 694-9376 • (213) 694-9377 • (213) 694-9378 • (213) 694-9379 • (213) 694-9380 • (213) 694-9381 • (213) 694-9382 • (213) 694-9383 • (213) 694-9384 • (213) 694-9385 • (213) 694-9386 • (213) 694-9387 • (213) 694-9388 • (213) 694-9389 • (213) 694-9390 • (213) 694-9391 • (213) 694-9392 • (213) 694-9393 • (213) 694-9394 • (213) 694-9395 • (213) 694-9396 • (213) 694-9397 • (213) 694-9398 • (213) 694-9399 • (213) 694-9400 • (213) 694-9401 • (213) 694-9402 • (213) 694-9403 • (213) 694-9404 • (213) 694-9405 • (213) 694-9406 • (213) 694-9407 • (213) 694-9408 • (213) 694-9409 • (213) 694-9410 • (213) 694-9411 • (213) 694-9412 • (213) 694-9413 • (213) 694-9414 • (213) 694-9415 • (213) 694-9416 • (213) 694-9417 • (213) 694-9418 • (213) 694-9419 • (213) 694-9420 • (213) 694-9421 • (213) 694-9422 • (213) 694-9423 • (213) 694-9424 • (213) 694-9425 • (213) 694-9426 • (213) 694-9427 • (213) 694-9428 • (213) 694-9429 • (213) 694-9430 • (213) 694-9431 • (213) 694-9432 • (213) 694-9433 • (213) 694-9434 • (213) 694-9435 • (213) 694-9436 • (213) 694-9437 • (213) 694-9438 • (213) 694-9439 • (213) 694-9440 • (213) 694-9441 • (213) 694-9442 • (213) 694-9443 • (213) 694-9444 • (213) 694-9445 • (213) 694-9446 • (213) 694-9447 • (213) 694-9448 • (213) 694-9449 • (213) 694-9450 • (213) 694-9451 • (213) 694-9452 • (213) 694-9453 • (213) 694-9454 • (213) 694-9455 • (213) 694-9456 • (213) 694-9457 • (213) 694-9458 • (213) 694-9459 • (213) 694-9460 • (213) 694-9461 • (213) 694-9462 • (213) 694-9463 • (213) 694-9464 • (213) 694-9465 • (213) 694-9466 • (213) 694-9467 • (213) 694-9468 • (213) 694-9469 • (213) 694-9470 • (213) 694-9471 • (213) 694-9472 • (213) 694-9473 • (213) 694-9474 • (213) 694-9475 • (213) 694-9476 • (213) 694-9477 • (213) 694-9478 • (213) 694-9479 • (213) 694-9480 • (213) 694-9481 • (213) 694-9482 • (213) 694-9483 • (213) 694-9484 • (213) 694-9485 • (213) 694-9486 • (213) 694-9487 • (213) 694-9488 • (213) 694-9489 • (213) 694-9490 • (213) 694-9491 • (213) 694-9492 • (213) 694-9493 • (213) 694-9494 • (213) 694-9495 • (213) 694-9496 • (213) 694-9497 • (213) 694-9498 • (213) 694-9499 • (213) 694-9500 • (213) 694-9501 • (213) 694-9502 • (213) 694-9503 • (213) 694-9504 • (213) 694-9505 • (213) 694-9506 • (213) 694-9507 • (213) 694-9508 • (213) 694-9509 • (213) 694-9510 • (213) 694-9511 • (213) 694-9512 • (213) 694-9513 • (213) 694-9514 • (213) 694-9515 • (213) 694-9516 • (213) 694-9517 • (213) 694-9518 • (213) 694-9519 • (213) 694-9520 • (213) 694-9521 • (213) 694-9522 • (213) 694-9523 • (213) 694-9524 • (213) 694-9525 • (213) 694-9526 • (213) 694-9527 • (213) 694-9528 • (213) 694-9529 • (213) 694-9530 • (213) 694-9531 • (213) 694-9532 • (213) 694-9533 • (213) 694-9534 • (213) 694-9535 • (213) 694-9536 • (213) 694-9537 • (213) 694-9538 • (213) 694-9539 • (213) 694-9540 • (213) 694-9541 • (213) 694-9542 • (213) 694-9543 • (213) 694-9544 • (213) 694-9545 • (213) 694-9546 • (213) 694-9547 • (213) 694-9548 • (213) 694-9549 • (213) 694-9550 • (213) 694-9551 • (213) 694-9552 • (213) 694-9553 • (213) 694-9554 • (213) 694-9555 • (213) 694-9556 • (213) 694-9557 • (213) 694-9558 • (213) 694-9559 • (213) 694-9560 • (213) 694-9561 • (213) 694-9562 • (213) 694-9563 • (213) 694-9564 • (213) 694-9565 • (213) 694-9566 • (213) 694-9567 • (213) 694-9568 • (213) 694-9569 • (213) 694-9570 • (213) 694-9571 • (213) 694-9572 • (213) 694-9573 • (213) 694-9574 • (213) 694-95



Steve Wieser and Fire Marshal Jimmy Hill.

All the Wieser



■ LAFD promotes Steve Wieser to Inspector I.

Story by Bev Haro, Club Counselor
Photo by Alan Masumoto

FIRE DEPT. — At a badge presentation ceremony Dec. 12 in City Hall East, Firefighter Steve Wieser was promoted to Inspector I.

He reports to the Schools, Churches, and Institutions Unit on a Temporary assignment. Steve has been with the Fire Department since January 1978.

Thanks to Martha Lucero and Alan Masumoto for their assistance.

Gail Here in Feb.

New Planning Director

Continued from Page 1

to help recruit a top candidate.

She began her career in San Diego as an associate planner in 1988 and rose through the ranks to become director, a position she held since 2001. During her tenure, Ms. Goldberg earned a reputation as a visionary and a team builder and is credited with rebuilding San Diego's planning department, according to Mayor Villaraigosa's statement. She is responsible for the "City of Villages" strategy, which promotes housing. Los Angeles is expected to enter a phase of vertical, or density, growth. This sometimes is also known as "smart growth," building multistory residential projects near public transportation to ease traffic while allowing for population growth.

Ms. Goldberg led a department of more than 100 employees. Her extensive responsibilities included all long-range and community planning activities, housing, facilities financing, transportation planning, the Multiple Species Conservation Program, Historic Resources Programs, special projects and all land use policy development. Additional responsibilities included supporting the city planning commission, several boards and more than 40 community planning groups.



Gail Goldberg.



SHOP ON-LINE!



Warm Spirit Business Opportunity!

Become a Warm Spirit Consultant Today!

One of the Fastest growing Health and Wellness companies in the nation, invites you to join us for Pampering, Relaxation, and Networking.

Contact: Evelyn Brooks, #16415
Phone: 213-434-9408
E-mail: ebrooks@warmspirit.org
Web: www.warmspirit.org/ebrooks



Does your CAR have a better disability plan than YOU do?

You know accidents can happen. That's why you insure your car.

An accident or illness can hit YOU at any time too, disrupting your earning power.

- 1 in 3 workers over age 50 will become disabled for at least 3 months at some point during their careers - many will never return to work
- Only 13% of disabilities are covered by workers' comp insurance

Source: Disability Research Institute, 1994; Bureau of Census, 1995; Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1995

Protect your income - and your lifestyle

Long Term Disability Income Insurance - available to the City Employees Club of Los Angeles

- Economical group rates for members
- Easy, convenient application
- Supplement your work coverage
- Free medical benefits happen or not with the job



Find out how economical the cost is
Call now for a free quote: 1-800-464-0452

The City Employees Club of Los Angeles
1011 Arguello Blvd. 10th Fl.
Los Angeles, CA 90047-1011
1-800-464-0452

AIG American General
Member of:
The United States Life Insurance Company for the City of New York
New York, NY
www.aig.com

DISABILITY INSURANCE COVERAGE IS PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK, A MEMBER OF THE AIG GROUP OF COMPANIES. COVERAGE IS SUBJECT TO THE POLICY TERMS AND CONDITIONS. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR AGENT FOR MORE INFORMATION.

PROTECT YOUR RETIREMENT!

All it takes is one long term care incident to wipe out all that you've saved for. Protect what you've worked so hard to accumulate; protect it with Long Term Care Insurance from the City Employees Club. Coverage runs from \$48,000 to \$1.2 million. We've been protecting City Employees for over 77 years, call us today to see what's right for you.



Call us today at:
(213) 620-0388
and ask to talk to our Long Term Care Specialist.

Since 1928 - The Los Angeles City Employees Association, the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, and AIG Insurance Services (AIG Department of Insurance License # 0098888). Long Term Care underwritten by L.A. Life Insurance Co.

ADD COLOR!

When you want to repaint, make sure to use your Club discount at Dunn-Edwards paint stores.

See page 2.

WHAT'S UP?

You'll always know what great events are happening in Los Angeles when you catch up with Michelle on the Move, in every issue of *Alive!*

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

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	\$
Total Income	\$

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)	\$
Total Expenses	\$

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.)	\$
Total Assets	\$

STEP 4 LIFE INSURANCE CALCULATION

TOTAL INCOME + TOTAL EXPENSES	= \$	(B)
LIFE INSURANCE NEEDED	= \$	(Subtract (A) from (B))

Call the Club today: (800) 464-0452

BUYING OR SELLING?

Specializing in Los Angeles and Orange Counties



>>BUYER - One year home warranty
 >>SELLER - \$100 Gift Certificate

I make it happen...you make it home.



JULIA TURUDIC
 (562) 493-3004 x3022



Be the talk of the watercooler



Save 15% on your next purchase
Use Promotion Code LACTA

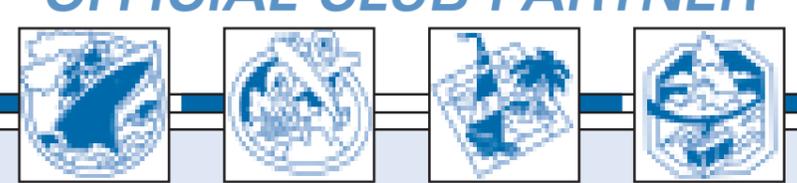
Fresh flowers, carefully grown and artistically designed
 The finest selection of flowers, plants, gift baskets,
 balloons, gourmet treats and more

100% satisfaction guaranteed
 Personal service 24/7 for delivery
 same day and late

Call 1-800-FLOWERS (1-800-354-3377)
 or Click www.1800flowers.com/ta06/

1-800-flowers.com
Your Name of choice

OFFICIAL CLUB PARTNER



Travel Talk



by **Tony Adler, President,
Cruise and Resort, Inc.
Club Travel Partner**

The Truth about Travel Nightmares

Viruses on Ships

Most of us are riveted to the TV when we watch the travel exposés. These stories attract a great deal of attention because of the glamour and excitement of the locations, and because we share a sense of innocence when go on vacations. We never expect these things to happen to us, so how could they possibly happen to other unsuspecting travelers?

Bad publicity is becoming more common for the travel industry. With the advent of the Internet, camera phones and other cellular communications, there is no escape from instant coverage. Some coverage is exaggerated simply to generate ratings. I am definitely not an apologist for the travel industry. Since I make my living off of people traveling, I am probably one of the harshest critics when any travel company abuses the public's trust. Nevertheless, truth and perspective sometimes gets lost in all the excitement. Maybe I can bring a little perspective back with this commentary.

The Norwalk, or norovirus, is a highly contagious flu-like virus. It is actually the most common cause of infectious gastroenteritis in England. It occurs mostly in the winter, and it frequently occurs in semi-closed environments including hospitals, nursing homes, schools and cruise ships. It has been around for centuries. There have been outbreaks on cruise ships since they began sailing. It is nasty. We wouldn't want it. But, it is something we likely have contracted in the past, and may well contract again in the future. The thing with this happening on a cruise ship is that, as your fellow passengers begin retiring to their rooms in larger and larger numbers, you can see how contagious this virus is. Until we see our fellow passengers with similar symptoms, we assume it is the stomach flu. The fact is that cruise lines thoroughly scrub down their ships more than almost any public place you are ever likely to visit. There is nothing they can do to completely stop this from happening, but they give it their best shot. Green passengers are bad for business. It is unlikely that you will get norovirus on a ship, but you cannot assume total protection from this or any other virus, including the common cold. You are less likely to get a stomach ailment on a ship than you are visiting the normal places you go to on land. It is probably not a good reason to avoid traveling on ships!

Cleanliness in Hotels

I admit that this one grosses me out. Most of us have seen the news reporter with the black light shining on the bedspread. Yuck! You never know who occupied the room before you checked-in. Most hotels keep their rooms quite clean, but I know that a little precaution goes a long way. We carry a small can of disinfectant or alcohol wipes. Even in a Four Seasons or a Ritz-Carlton, we wipe off the toilet seat. We also do the same with the TV remote control since it is rarely scrubbed and is touched often. While your sheets and towels should be fine because they are freshly cleaned, we don't sit our naked bodies on the upholstered furniture or on the bedspread or comforter. Hey, you wouldn't put your face on a pillow without a cover, would you? Most of these things are prudent more for psychological reasons than for any actual dangers of getting sick. This stuff makes good TV and creates paranoid guests! I speak from experience.

Disappearances and Violence in Foreign Lands and on Ships

Very bad things do occasionally happen while on a ship or in a foreign county. Violent people exist everywhere, including in our own country. Some acts of violence are committed by acquaintances and others are random acts of violence perpetrated by strangers. Disappearances are extremely rare, but when they do happen, you can expect a great deal of coverage. They are tragedies that deserve to be covered, but getting real facts isn't always easy.

I think it is fair to say that the United States has a more transparent investigatory process and is less corrupt than many other lands. There are inherent risks when you venture off to foreign lands. Keep in mind the realities of risk-taking. We take chances every time we get into a motor vehicle. Are you really any safer on our freeways?

Once again, basic precautions reduce your risk. Avoid going places that don't seem safe. If your government warns against going there, it is probably an adventure you should avoid. Don't walk alone in dark places (whether abroad or at home). Do not become intoxicated and potentially lose your ability to make good decisions. Don't allow strangers into your room. Consider very carefully how far you want to veer off the beaten path. Nothing is completely safe, but make wise decisions and you are likely to avoid any dangerous situations.

You are always welcome to call our offices and share with us any concerns you may have about your travels. We want you to enjoy your trips, return safely, and book many more vacations with our company. We don't hold back on giving you our best advice and honest answers. We care about our clients!

My company is Cruise and Resort. We are honored to be your club's travel partner. Cruise and Resort can help you with all sorts of vacations, including winter adventures. Please give us a call at (888) 652-6400 with any questions and for reservations. We appreciate all your business, including leisure, business and meeting planning! Not only can we book your member reservations at any hotel, resort or cruise line, we can often save you money and offer you additional Club benefits. Your Club membership means you never pay extra for this service.

Call your Club representatives at (888) 652-6400
Julie, David or Kristy – to talk about any travel destination. Be sure to mention that you are a Club member for your maximum discounts. We value your business and look forward to the opportunity to assist you.



John's Picture Perfect Contest



For February, we have three winners

Start snapping today, and send us your best results! Three winners will receive a \$25 gift certificate to Trader Joe's.

WIN \$25 TRADER JOE'S Gift Card
Three PRIZES



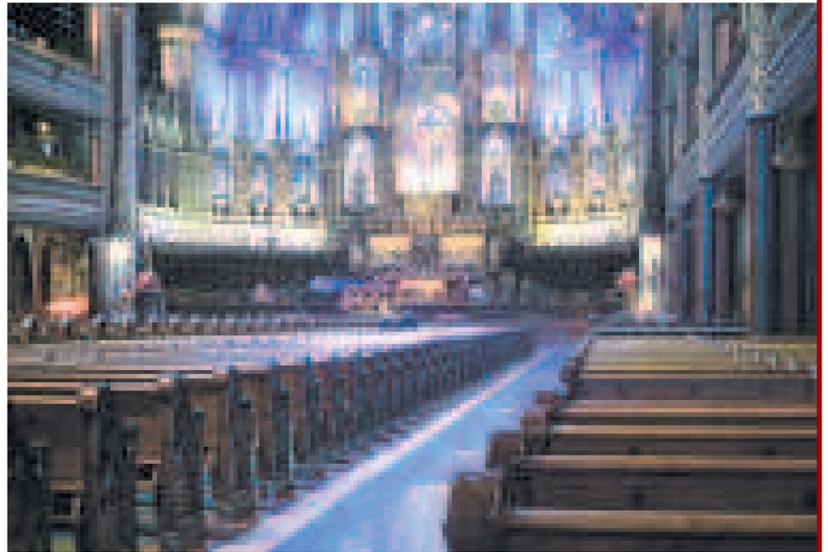
"Here is a picture of my puppy, Darby, in the snow on Monday morning, Jan. 2. (You can barely see him.) This is the most snow we have ever gotten out of one storm that I can remember." - **Gwendolyn Lew, DWP, Bishop.**

John says: "While I was getting a nice tan in the sun, it was nice to know that somewhere else in California, a white Christmas was in process. We often forget about our fellow City family working way out in some pretty harsh environments. Thanks, Gwendolyn, and give Darby a big hug for me!"



"This is my favorite picture of my husband and my pug, Yoshi. Yoshi is happiest when she's just hangin' out with her 'Dada'." - **Marilou Romney, LAPD.**

John says: "Even after seeing this picture a dozen times it still makes me smile. Marilou's husband just looks so happy and content - to me this is a real 'feel-good' shot. Thanks, Marilou!"



"My wife and I visited Montreal over the Christmas/New Year's holidays. One place we visited was the Notre-Dame Basilica. Built in 1829, it has a beautiful interior, which I was able to take a picture of with my Vivitar digital camera." - **Arvin Lopez, Public Works.**

John says: "Many times I have tried to take good pictures of the inside of cathedrals ... to no avail. Arvin really captured the beauty of this cathedral. It almost looks like a 3-D 'ViewMaster' picture (remember those 3-D viewers?), and he captured the lighting so perfectly. Arvin, you should send this to National Geographic!"

NEXT DEADLINE: February 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:

- James Francis, Retired
- Alicia Marquez, Housing
- Edwina Valencia, Library
- Javier Lopez, Animal Services
- Robert Horvath, Public Works
- Jason Merrick, LAPD
- Mark Blunk, LACERS

AI COMMUNICATIONS INC.
18226 Ventura Blvd. Suite #202
Tarzana, CA 91358

(818) 344-6616 (800) 863-3366
18226 Ventura Blvd Suite #202, Tarzana CA 91358
"Special Ad Offers Available At This Location Only"

2ND PHONE 1/2 OFF* 3RD PHONE FREE!*
FREE VOICE MAIL, CALLER ID & CALL WAITING!!

Three Options For Business Meeting Success

LOCAL DIGITAL CALLING PLAN

\$29.99	\$32.79	\$33.79	\$43.99	\$48.19	\$55.99	\$61.99	\$122.99
300 A	1000 A	500 A	700 A	5000 A	1400 A	2000 A	3000 A
UNLIMITED LOCAL							

NATIONAL DIGITAL CALLING PLAN

\$28.79	\$32.79	\$48.19	\$55.99	\$61.99	\$122.99	\$163.99	\$245.99
150 A	450 A	500 A	1350 A	2000 A	3000 A	4000 A	5000 A
FREE LD & PD							

PAGER SPECIAL
INCLUDES 1ST YEAR SERVICE FREE!

LS 350
\$79.99

LS 550
\$89.99

LS 750
\$99.99

T900
\$99.99

<p>QUALCOMM 2000 FREE</p>	<p>QUALCOMM 2000 \$59.99</p>	<p>MOTOROLA 2000 \$59.99</p>	<p>SAMSUNG 7000 \$ CALL \$</p>	<p>LG VS 2000 \$ CALL \$</p>
<p>AUDIOVOX 8000 \$ CALL \$</p>	<p>AUDIOVOX 8000 \$ CALL \$</p>	<p>AUDIOVOX 8000 \$ CALL \$</p>	<p>LG VS 2000 \$ CALL \$</p>	<p>MOTOROLA 2000 \$ CALL \$</p>
<p>SAMSUNG 7000 \$ CALL \$</p>	<p>MOTOROLA 2000 \$ CALL \$</p>	<p>MOTOROLA 2000 \$ CALL \$</p>	<p>MOTOROLA 2000 \$ CALL \$</p>	<p>SAMSUNG 7000 \$ CALL \$</p>

WE DELIVER ANYWHERE! WE DELIVER ANYWHERE! WE DELIVER ANYWHERE! WE DELIVER ANYWHERE! WE DELIVER ANYWHERE!

(818) 344-6616 ORDER BY PHONE TODAY - DELIVERED TOMORROW (800) 863-3366

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



"Here we are, my daughter and I, on our vacation to Ensenada June 27. We're at the Bufadora, where the water shoots up high."
- **Javier Lopez**,
Club Member

Chuck and Heather Kokoska proudly hold their copy of *Alive!* in front of Radio City Music Hall in New York City. Chuck is the Director of Corporate Health and Safety, DWP.



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



Where in LA?

WIN \$25 Target Gift Certificate

Get ready for another great contest.

We wish you could all win!

For February, 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, 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: Feb. 12.
- See complete list of rules.
- Thanks for playing, and good luck!

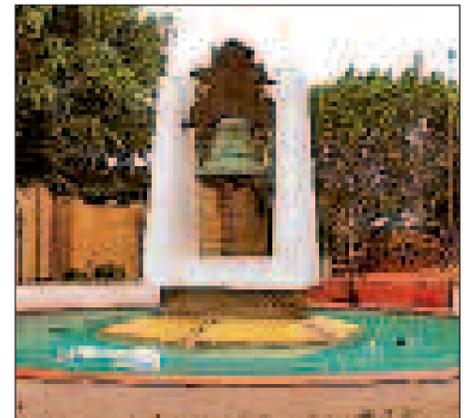
Send your response along with your Club card number by e-mail (whereinla@cityemployeesclub.com), by fax (213-620-0398) or by surface mail (350 S. Figueroa, Suite 700, Los Angeles 90071).

This month's winner is:

Ken Moody, ITA.

Here's Ken's winning response: This month's photo is of the "Bell of Dolores." It is located at El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument. This replica was presented to the City of Los Angeles by the Republic of Mexico in 1968. This cherished relic of Mexican history represents not only Mexico's bid for freedom, but also the beginning of democracy here in California. This bid for freedom began not in Mexico City, but in the village of Dolores.

It was here that Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla was assigned as parish priest, where he became active in politics and sided with the less fortunate of Mexican society. On the night of Sept. 15, 1810, Father Hidalgo rang the parish church bell, now known as the "Bell of Dolores," to summon patriots to fight for their independence from Spain. Every year on Sept. 15, the President of Mexico tolls the original "Bell of Dolores," now hung at the National Palace in Mexico City.



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
- 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.



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 4 Tickets to Disneyland

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:

Feb. 15, 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



Life's Important Moments

Share your moments!



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
Active					
Theresa Barragan	LACERS	34	James Hills	Public Works	28
Thomas Bolitho	DWP	14	Edward Hughes Jr.	DWP	30
Tanya Valencia Cochran	LAPD	12	Rufus Jenkins	Public Works	32
Felipe Cortez	Transportation	13	Floyd Johnson	Gen. Services	33
Dianne Douglas	Rec and Parks	18	Daniel Kelly	DWP	N/D
Cynthia Festich	DWP	18	Gussie Kwasman	ITA	12
Karl Guthman	Rec and Parks	18	Richard Lenser	DWP	N/D
Eugene Mori	LAPD	5	Darlene Mack	DWP	N/D
Robert Webster	DWP	17	Mark Matthews	DWP	N/D
Retired					
Edgar Andrews	Public Works	28	A.V. McNamer Jr.	DWP	29
Helen Bailey	DWP	N/D	Robert Meicht	DWP	26
Mike Bargman	Public Works	10	Perry Merritt	Rec and Parks	12
Melba Bernfeld	DWP	46	Lawrence Miller	LAPD	17
Warren Blake	Gen. Services	29	Marilee Minor	Neighborhood Services	7
Thomas Bolitho	DWP	N/D	John Morales	DWP	N/D
Marvin Braude	City Council	26	Raymond Morrell	Gen. Services	22
Edward Brown	DWP	30	Ray Ohashi	Gen. Services	37
Burt Burnham	Public Works	0	Jesse Palacio	ITA	23
Vincent Carta	DWP	19	Robert Parks	Public Works	32
Dale Champion	DWP	N/D	Kenneth Peterson	ITA	31
Leroy Charles	Transportation	39	James Pettengill	DWP	N/D
Jerome Considine	DWP	31	Mollie Reeves	DWP	12
Charles Cook	Gen. Services	10	George Ritter	DWP	41
Jack Corwin	DWP	27	Louis Sacco	Municipal Auditorium	20
Minor Courtney	Public Works	29	Edmundo Sosa	DWP	N/D
Ronald Cox	DWP	N/D	Bernard Smith	DWP	48
James Daniley	DWP	14	Gerald Smith	DWP	N/D
Karen David	DWP	N/D	Ramona Strickland	DWP	N/D
Paul DeArmon	DWP	N/D	Robert Sunday	Building and Safety	19
Lynett Dickey	DWP	N/D	Lena Stanford	LAPD	34
David Dona	Public Works	35	Francis Taft	DWP	14
George Doyle	Airports	6	Frank Tandy	Public Works	17
Robert Dryden	Rec and Parks	12	John Taylor	Public Works	16
Eugene Felix	Public Works	34	Nathan Thomas	DWP	N/D
Cynthia Festich	DWP	N/D	Roscoe Thomas	DWP	17
Anne Fisher	DWP	25	Albert Tooze	ITA	20
Landus Flood	City Clerk	26	Robert Trimble	DWP	N/D
Shirley Grant	Personnel	15	Harold Walker	DWP	11
Sylvester Green	Public Works	23	Levi Walker	DWP	25
Hoe Cong Ha	DWP	N/D	James Watts	Gen. Services	14
Harold Hall	LAPD	34	Robert Webster	DWP	N/D
Satoshi Hayashi	CDD	19	Anita Wedlow	DWP	N/D
John Haynie	Public Works	33	Daniel Wiedlund	DWP	N/D
			James Williams	City Clerk	25
			Ronald Wims	Airports	30



Retirements

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	#YEARS
Sagario Alvarado	Crossing Guard	Transportation	5
Eleanor Barrera	Secretary	Public Works	25
Jerry Lee Barrett	Electric Station Operator	DWP	N/D
Gail Bebee	Management Analyst	LAPD	37
Darren Billesbach	N/D	DWP	N/D
Simon Bocanegra	Senior Gardener	DWP	N/D
Primitivo Bostre	Architectural Associate	Harbor	26
Paul Chang	N/D	DWP	N/D
Valerie Chapman	N/D	DWP	N/D
Simon Darensbourg	N/D	DWP	N/D
Maria Digirolamo	Crossing Guard	Transportation	7
Willy Dostal	N/D	DWP	N/D
Grace Ezra-Tesser	Customer Service Rep	DWP	N/D
Frank Fonseca	Water Utility Worker	DWP	N/D
Howard Garrett	N/D	DWP	N/D
James Gilliam	Sr. Communication Engineer	ITA	38
Paulette Grady	N/D	DWP	N/D
Jeffrey Hunt	N/D	DWP	N/D
John Jones	Construction Equip. Serv. Worker	DWP	N/D
Fumiko Kkikawa	N/D	DWP	N/D
Bernard Langlois	Crossing Guard	Transportation	3
Eleanor Lloyd	N/D	DWP	N/D
Michael Magdaleno	Water Utility Worker	DWP	N/D
Gloria Martin	Background Investigator	Personnel	7
David McClenahan	Build. Elec. Engineer	Public Works	37
Ricardo Navarro	N/D	DWP	N/D
Gil Olivarez	N/D	DWP	N/D
Antonio Ortiz	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	Housing	25
David Palk	Safety Engr. Press Ves.	Building and Safety	22
Janice Phillips	Hearing Officer	City Attorney	36
Brenda Pickens	N/D	DWP	N/D
Diane Porche-Shaw	N/D	DWP	N/D
Concepcion Rasales	Clerk	DWP	N/D
Joseph Rivers	Traffic Paint. Sign Post.	Transportation	24
Alice Russell	N/D	DWP	N/D
Yolanda Sanchez	Customer Service Rep.	DWP	N/D
Karen Sanford	Senior Clerk Typist	DWP	N/D
Vahe Saradjian	Civil Engineering Associate	Public Works	29
Karen Shehorn	Clerk Typist	LAPD	13
Carmen Sinsabaugh	Senior Clerk Typist	DWP	N/D
Judith Subject	Ch. Mgmt. Analyst	Airports	32
Christine Trinkley	Clerk Typist	Planning	5
Leonard Valentine	Sr. Spc. Ofcr.	Airports	45
Charlie Waggoner Jr.	N/D	DWP	N/D
Kenneth Warren	Management Analyst	Rec and Parks	36
Darlene Wells	N/D	DWP	N/D

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!

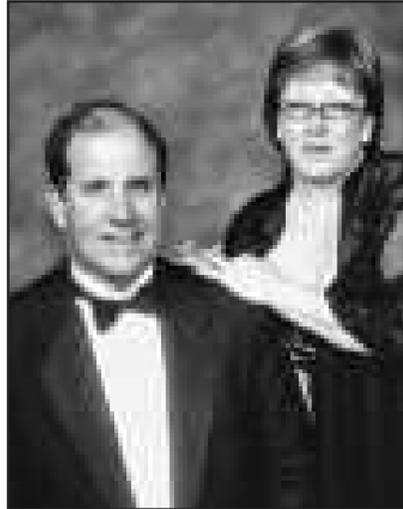
Did you get married? Have a baby? (Yea!) Get a promotion? (Hooray!) Retire? (Ahhhh.) We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and digital photos to: moments@cityemployeesclub.com
Send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!* 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

Births



Juliana Marija Basich, born Dec. 17, is the granddaughter of Ante and Irma Basich. Ante is a Boat Carpenter for the Harbor Department.

Weddings



Nels Hansen and Joy Faulkner. Nels is a security officer with Airport Police and has worked for the City for 19 years.

Promotions

Susan Valencoure has been promoted to Secretary, LAFD. Previously she was Clerk Typist at the L.A. Zoo. Susan is a hard working Club department representative.



James Masud, promoted to Street Lighting Electrician Supervisor I

New Members

Welcome New Members!

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

Airports

- Naeembaig Baig
- Joseph Barrett
- Claude Clark
- Danny Galindo
- Endy Garay
- Fermin Gomez Jr.
- Larry Hatfield
- Michael Haydel
- Andrea Henderson
- Tracey Houston
- George Jefferson
- Joel Klein
- Anusa Lavender
- James Madison
- Ellen Neu
- Mario Patrick
- Abel Salazar
- Carol Stamps
- Norma Teixeira
- Maria Thomas

Building and Safety

Mandeep Ghuman

City Attorney

- Juana Bosch
- Gloria Gonzalez
- Karl Moody
- James Napier

City Clerk

Nannerl Meza

Community Development

Laura Cantu

Convention Center

Reynaldo Williams

Cultural Affairs

Joyce Maddox

DWP

- Ricardo Alvarez
- Rene Anderson
- Carmine Baffo
- Samuel Brown
- Barbara Coons
- Roy Davidson
- Frank Fierro Jr.
- Andy Fix
- Yong Fou
- Ricardo Gonzales
- Robert Higgins
- Tonya Howard- Taylor
- Desmond Johnson
- Kory Jamerson
- Eva Lopez
- Ronnie Marshall
- Debra Martin
- Mary Montes
- Ramon Perez
- Sheridan Saltus
- David Schneider

Sheila Smith

William Swint

Manuel Vasquez

William Zhang

General Services

Paul De La Cruz

Ruben Diaz

Andrew Filbeck

Mario Flores

Juan Gomez

John Lara

Maung Myo

Timothy Schendel

Vaheh Shahbazian

Wilner Tinoyan

Louis Vela

Harbor

- Denise Galaz
- Russell Gallivan
- Charles Giles Jr.
- Kenneth Hawkes
- Kevin Jennings
- Nikola Jurat
- Marty Maher
- Marion Mayse
- Ikeba McDaniel
- Miriam Quintanilla
- Richard Rand
- Albert Robles
- Gabriel Silva
- Charles Smith

Housing

Jorge Haro

Maria Perez

ITA

Jina Payba

Library

Magdalena Valdez

Police

- Gina Biraimah
- Shiou Ceja
- Elma Cronin
- Anthony Deng
- Robert Drake
- Jason Duke
- Stacey Merrick
- Thaddeus Nelson
- Fadil Poole
- Enrique Ramirez
- Monica Stewart
- Keith Vallado
- Public Works**
- Steve Burke Jr
- David Chin
- Titus Drew
- Marcus Hawthorne
- Luis Morales
- Marquita McFarland
- Clarence Parmer
- Daniel Rodriguez
- Edward Singer
- Glenn Vega
- Lawrence Williams

Rec and Parks

- Luis Aguayo
- Yeimy Baltazar
- Sondra Bell
- Jess Carbajal
- Raul Cortes
- Anitra Evans
- Bobby Fuqua
- Romeo Garaniel
- Lucindy Jeter
- Jose Juarez
- Mary Loprino
- Juliette McAllister
- William Noel
- Rosa Otzoy

Retirement System (LACERS)

Susana Tostado

Transportation

- Lloyd Alexander
- Euola Brooks
- Juan Castillo
- Austin Collins
- Tanieshia Cooper
- Ruby Edley
- Oscar Garza
- Martin Gillette
- Gloria Hatch
- Krissy Huff
- Leda Johnson
- David Lena
- Alden Marsh

Carolina Melgar

Sarah Morton

Cesar Ponce

Lenicia Raggett

Ronald Taylor

Lonietta Townsend

Zoo

- Melissa Burrows
- Juan Lopez
- Markeise Patterson
- Gloria Rodriguez
- Paula Stanley

Retired

- Grace Arroyo
- Mattie Carmichael
- Robert Keiser
- Stella Lara
- Sandra Mamaril
- Homer Morimoto
- Socorro Reyes
- Salome Simpson
- Bertha Swingler
- Cleone Vrabel
- Elvie Walker
- Bernard Wilson

Other

- Renee Anderson
- Lisa Salazar



A Recruit climbs ladder to enter the training structure.



Fire Recruits help each other put on gear.



Recruits use teamwork to set up ladder.



The injured passenger is rescued without further injuries.



Recruit Hessing learns how to remove an injured passenger from an accident.



Recruit Reddick is learning the art of putting out a car fire.



A Recruit hoses down the car.



A Recruit practices cutting open the hood.



Recruits wait for their turn to practice on the burning vehicles.



A Recruit learns how to remove an injured passenger from an accident.



Recruits look up as other recruits climb to the top of the building.



Recruits remove the windshield.

Firefighters in Training

■ LAFD stages media event to showcase heroes in the making.

Story by Jackie David, Public Information Director, Personnel

Photos by Bev Haro, Club Counselor and Angel Gomez

FIRE DEPT. — The news media were recently treated to a unique opportunity to witness some of the training that goes into the making of a Los Angeles Firefighter: throwing ladders and hose lines, jumping into an air rescue cushion from the fourth floor, simulated building fires, three actual auto fires, auto extrication and paramedic response.

The Training and Recruitment Sections of the Los Angeles Fire Department hosted the special media event at the Frank Hotchkin Memorial Training Center on three separate days in early January. Captain Michael Greenup and Captain Surgey Tomlinson headed up the training that included two female recruits performing some of the more challenging and difficult tasks as well as doing news media interviews in the hopes of attracting potential female candidates.

Jackie David, Public Information Director for Personnel's Public Safety group (and Alive!

columnist), coordinated the event with LAFD's Recruitment Chief Brian Cummings and Captain Darnell Wade. "It was a hands-down successful event," Jackie said. "We needed to get our message out to the community at large that the Los Angeles Fire Department is seeking qualified applicants with the hope of achieving diversity in its workforce. We appealed to the news media for help and they came: The Associated Press Television News, Getty Images Wire Service, Fox11 TV News, KFWB Radio, Hispanic Stations Univision TV News (Channel 34) and Telemundo TV News (Channel 54), the Korean Times, Television Korea 24, Asian Station KSCI TV News (Channel 18), LA's CityView (Channel 35) and Alive!. To top it off, the Fire Department was phenomenal — going above and beyond to provide the media with a great story and accompanying visuals."

The recruits are set to graduate Feb. 17 and really begin their lives as Firefighters.

"I happened to compliment Getty Images photographer David McNew for his outstanding photos of our Firefighters," Jackie said. "His response? 'The Los Angeles Fire Department is a great department — with or without photos.' That says it all, doesn't it?"

Note: Jackie David gives special thanks and acknowledgements to LAFD's Chief Brian Cummings, Captain Darnell Wade, Captain Michael Greenup, Captain Surgey Tomlinson and the wonderful Trainers and Recruits who showcased what the Los Angeles Fire Department is truly all about: Heroes in the making.





A Recruit checks to see that water is getting to the simulated fire.



Recruits begin to remove hood from the car.



A Recruit learns how to use the saw to cut open a hood.



Recruits use axes to cut open top of the car.



A Recruit uses the "Jaws of Life" to remove the top of the car.



There's no time to waste when a car's on fire.



Recruits watch as others open the hood of the car.



A Recruit gets the hose out of the fire engine.



From left: Jackie David and Capt. Tomlinson.



Recruits climb the ladder.



Recruit Wan carries ladder back from the training structure.



Recruit Cole ensures there are no kinks in the hose.



Rescuing an injured passenger is a delicate process.



Rescuing an injured passenger requires team effort.



From left: Jackie David with recruitment captains.



Recruits insert a stretcher into the vehicle to rescue the injured passenger



AFFIRMATIVE ACTION ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN

Success Conference

"Stairway to Success"

This year's conference theme is "Being Super Woman" and will focus on investment, health, personal wellbeing, mentoring and career development. There will be dynamic speakers, informative pavilions in the foyer, a great luncheon, and networking opportunities.

Saturday, March 18, 2006

7:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The Center at the Cathedral Plaza
555 W. Temple Street
Downtown Los Angeles

Advance Tickets before March 6:
Members: \$45 • Non-Members: \$60
Tickets after March 6:
Members: \$55 • Non-Members: \$75

213-847-AAAW #4
www.la-aaaw.org

No Pressure Travel

Great Deals! • Great Deals!

Get Ready to Cruise Alaska

Sun Princess 7- Day R/T Seattle @ \$749pp

May 14 & May 21, 2006

Cruise And Tour Alaska

Sapphire Princess 7-Day Cruise and 4-Day Tour
fr. \$1769pp

May 20, 2006 (tour & cruise only)

**** VALENTINE DAY SPECIAL ****

ROYAL CARIBBEAN – Monarch of the Seas

February 13, 2006 @374.32pp Oceanview

Staterooms available at these rates are limited and prices are current at time of printing and are subject to change without notice.

Check out more great value and specials on our website at:

www.nopressuretravel.com

No Pressure Travel

(formerly Prestige Travel Services)

877-882-1242

bfisher3nopressuretravel.com • 877-882-1242

cst #2074176-40

NO CREDIT CARD NEEDED TO BOOK WITH US!

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.

Cupid is Chubby for a Reason

When reading e-mail from the Cooking with the Club readers, the topic of Valentine's Day recipes came up every time. So, to help you with your food-making endeavors for Valentine's Day, I have provided some of my own recipes of love. They are easy to make and will easily please the taste buds of loved ones.

Prawns of Amour are a longtime favorite of mine that I got from an old friend Margo, who was from France. She loved butter and parsley and found great ways combine them in a variety of foods like shrimp (prawns). This one was her favorites. Give it a try!

Oh My Mussels Marinara is a fantastic Italian-style recipe used in many restaurants. If you have most of the ingredients in your kitchen for this recipe, you must already be a chef. Frankly, the cooking is easy, but for this recipe, finding the ingredients might take a little time because most of us might not have all the ingredients in the pantry. But I will say this: Once the ingredients are combined and the aromas rise from the heated pan, you will need to close



the windows to your house because your neighbors will knocking down the doors to your kitchen.

Valentine's Day cannot go on without cheese and wine, but just in case you are not in the mood for wine, the Stuffed Brie of Love is just what this Chef has ordered. Microwaving the Brie is fine, but I have baked it, too, and it is wonderful.

I'm not sure what Cupid would eat, but the effects of this recipe are similar to the affects to the love arrow-head when striking his human target. This recipe will turn anyone into your love slave. Well, maybe not slave, but close enough! The secret is to get all your

fruit fresh – not frozen – when combining the ingredients. If you do this, you will preserve the fruit crunchiness.

Happy Valentine's Day!



Prawns of Passion

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup butter, divided
- 1 (28 ounce) can crushed tomatoes
- 2 pounds of large prawns - peeled, deveined and butterflied
- 1 medium head garlic, peeled and minced
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- Salt and pepper to taste



DIRECTIONS:

Melt half-cup butter in a saucepan over low heat. Add 1 minced head of garlic and sauté for 2 to 3 minutes until soft. Stir in the tomatoes and bring to a simmer. Continue cooking until reduced to a thick paste, about 60 to 90 minutes. In a separate saucepan, melt remaining half-cup butter in a saucepan over low heat. Sauté remaining garlic for 2 to 3 minutes. Toss prawns in garlic butter sauce and place on a baking sheet. Broil until pink. Do not overcook. Spread the warm tomato mixture onto serving plates. Place prawns on top of tomato sauce and sprinkle with chopped parsley.



Cupid's Salad

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 (6 ounce) package strawberry-flavored gelatin
- 2 cups boiling water
- 1 (16 ounce) package strawberries, partially frozen
- 2 bananas, peeled and diced
- 1 (20 ounce) can crushed pineapple, drained
- 1 (8 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed



DIRECTIONS:

In a medium saucepan over high heat, bring water to a boil and add gelatin. After gelatin has dissolved, add strawberries, bananas and pineapple, mix well; remove from heat. Spoon mixture into individual heart molds or a 9x13 inch baking dish; chill until firm. Top each serving with whipped topping, if desired; serve.



Stuffed Brie of Love

INGREDIENTS:

- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 cups fresh sliced mushrooms
- Half cup dates, pitted and chopped
- 1 (8 ounce) wheel Brie cheese



DIRECTIONS:

In a medium skillet over medium heat, melt butter and caramelize onions and mushrooms; add dates and warm mixture for about 2 minutes. Slice the Brie wheel in half down the center so that there is a top and a bottom; fill with the onion mixture. Replace the top of the Brie. Microwave Brie for 1 to 3 minutes or until bubbly; serve.



Oh My Mussels Marinara

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 (14.5 ounce) can crushed tomatoes
- 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 pinch crushed red pepper flakes
- 1/4 cup white wine
- 1 pound mussels, cleaned and debearded
- 8 ounces linguini pasta
- 1 lemon cut into wedges, for garnish



DIRECTIONS:

In a large skillet over medium heat, warm oil and sauté garlic until transparent. Add tomatoes, oregano, basil and red pepper flakes to skillet; reduce heat to low to simmer for 5 minutes. Meanwhile, bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add pasta and cook for 8 to 10 minutes or until al dente; drain and reserve. Add wine and mussels to skillet; cover and increase heat to high for 3 to 5 minutes or until mussel shells are open. Pour over hot pasta, sprinkle with parsley and squeeze lemon wedge over all. Garnish with remaining lemon and serve.

ENTERTAINMENT

WHO'S GOT THE POPCORN

The Club guide to home entertainment

By Michelle Moreno, the Events Guru (E.G.) and Navin Cotton, the Ticket Guy (T.G.)

T.G., E.G. Team Up to Look at A Very Spooky February

"Mini-Me, you complete me" and "TG, you disturb me"... just kidding!

Any-hoo, Happy Valentine's Day to all you lovers (from TG) ... and happy Single Awareness Day to all you singles (from EG).

This is the month of love, and because of that, we chose spoofs as the theme. Why? Well ... um... because we can, that's why. Remember, "We are two wild and crazy guys." Actually EG is wild, TG is just crazy.

Speaking of wild and crazy, we are going to change things a bit and allow you crazy members to give us themes for upcoming Popcorns. If you've got some good ones, please e-mail them to us: popcorn@cityemployeesclub.com. If you've

got some bad ones – well then – feel free to e-mail those to our Administrative Service Representative, Lupe Medina, at lmedina@cityemployeesclub.com (shhh... don't tell her we told you).

This is TG and EG saying, "We rob from the rich and give to the poor, that's right! We may look like sissies, but watch what you say, or else we'll put out your lights. We're men, we're men in tights, Always on guard, defending the people's rights."



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



Robin Hood: Men in Tights

A spoof of Robin Hood in general, and 'Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves' in particular.

E.G.: I love this movie... well, I've loved Cary Elwes ever since he was in *The Princess Bride* as Wesley and he said, "as you wish," and then became the Dread Pirate Robert but then came back for *Buttercup* and then saved the day... oh wait, where was I? Oh yes, this movie is very funny and is in my collection of "must have" films. I give it a total 5!

T.G.: Stop the press! Stop the press! TG says hold everything. You want laughter? This movie has it. Mel Brooks is at his best with this film. I can't believe EG gave this movie a 5, but what do you expect from someone who enjoyed the recent *Phantom of the Opera* movie. This spoof is a definite must-see. I give it a 4.587. (The scene with Lil John drowning is classic!)

Capsule reviews of other movies to watch this month:

Robin Hood: Men in Tights

My Score: ●●●●●

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

This film, which spoofs *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, is one of the best spoof films ever! It is Mel Brooks at his best. I laughed out loud through most of this movie. The cast is led by Cary Elwes as Robin Hood, who is perfectly cast. A great supporting cast includes Richard Lewis as Prince John, Roger Rees as the Sheriff of Nottingham, and Amy Yasbeck as Maid Marian. There are some big-name cameo appearances, too, which include Patrick Stewart, Dom DeLuise, and Dick Van Patten. This movie is great fun for the whole family!

– Debbie Winger, DWP



Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery

My Score: ●●●●1/2

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

In this spoof of James Bond films, Mike Myers plays Austin Powers, an awkward secret agent with bad teeth and a reputation for being a swinger. For the true Bond fans, there are many references to the original Bond films that are really funny. Mike Myers also plays Dr. Evil, Austin Powers' nemesis, one of my favorite characters in this film. Elizabeth Hurley plays Austin's love interest, Vanessa. A good supporting cast includes Michael York, Robert Wagner, Seth Green and Mindy Sterling. This is a really funny film but is a little too racy for really young kids. Should you at least take the time to see this film? In the words of Austin Powers, "Yeah, baby!"

– Debbie Winger, DWP

Scary Movie

My Score: ●●●●●

Rated R, Adults

I just love parody movies! This one is a funny parody of the movie *Scream* and *I Know What You Did Last Summer*. The Wayans brothers (Marlon, Shawn and Keenen Ivory) and Carmen Electra are superb in this movie. There are some surprises here! The movie after all is rated R. Rent it, make some popcorn and enjoy.

– Deborah Bunt, DWP

High Anxiety

My Score: ●●●●●1/2

Rated PG, Adults and children

Mel Brooks always cracks me up. This is a spoof on Alfred Hitchcock movies. I laughed so hard while watching this, it literally hurt. If you have not seen this one, you need to! The parodies of *Psycho* and *The Birds* are my favorites. The cast, which includes Cloris Leachman (a nurse from hell), Harvey Korman (crazy shrink), Madeline Kahn and other well-known faces, is incredible.

– Patricia Saucier, DWP

Airplane

My Score: ●●●●●

Rated PG, Adults and children

This is a comedy movie to watch alone or with others. It is a funny parody of airplane disaster movies. The pace is great, with one joke after another. It will have you laughing out loud at times. The cast is jam-packed with a lot of familiar faces, which makes it even more fun. My favorite is Leslie "don't call me Shirley" Nielsen.

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

The Naked Gun: From the Files of Police Squad!

My Score: ●●●●●

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

Here, Leslie "don't call me Shirley" Nielsen stars as a bumbling police lieutenant. The movie is stupid and funny at the same time. Probably not for everybody, but you know who you are if you like these corny parody-type movies. This movie has a lot of familiar faces, which I really enjoy. But Leslie Nielsen is the best!

– Gail Seltzer, DWP

TRIVIA CONTEST

Congratulations to three Club Members who answered our trivia questions correctly: **Deborah Bunt, Brenda Mitchell, Patricia Saucier, Debbie Winger and Gail Seltzer.** Since our Popcorn trivia seems to be quite popular, we have added five more questions!

Note: Not all trivia questions are movie-related.

1. Name all the DVDs in which the introduction quotes appear in.
2. *Robin Hood: Men in Tights* references three other Mel Brooks films. What are they and how?
3. What was last month's "Movie of the Month"?
4. What film had a deadly rabbit protecting a cave?
5. What 2000 film spoofs a 1996 horror film?
6. What famous basketball player starred as a pilot in a 1980 spoof movie?
7. "Let the Schwartz be with you" is from what film?
8. What rock band tried and failed to recreate a replica of Stonehenge?
9. This director starred in his own comedy/ horror novel-based film as a doctor.
10. In which film did Gene Hackman play a blind man?

The answers from last month are:

1. E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial; A Few Good Men; and The Blues Brothers
2. Hamlet
3. The Dukes of Hazzard
4. Jim Carrey
5. Outrageous Fortune
6. Twins
7. Winston Churchill
8. Connie and Carla – (Nia Vardalos and Toni Collette)
9. Weird Science
10. Turner and Hooch

ENTERTAINMENT



100 Words or Less!

IN THEATERS

Movie Reviews by Fellow Club Members

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!**



The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

Rated PG, Adults and children
My Score: 4 (out of 5)

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe is based on the beloved children's book by C.S. Lewis. It centers on the four Pevensie children who discover a magical land through a portal in a wardrobe. Inhabited by mythical creatures and talking animals, Narnia was cursed to eternal winter by Jadis, the evil White Witch. The siblings, with the help of Aslan, an ancient and wise ruler, defeat the witch and her army in an epic battle. The special effects are done very well and the children's performances are strong. I highly recommend this film for fans of the book or anyone with children.

— Amy Tariq, LAPD

My Score: 4.5 (out of 5)

I had never heard of the book, so I did not know anything about the story. The promo really did not draw my interest, but I decided to go see it. Actually, the timing was perfect. And what a great surprise this turned out to be! I thoroughly loved the movie!

What a nice movie for the whole family to enjoy. I don't know if there will be more, but I hope so.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

Memoirs of a Geisha

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

My Score: 3.5 (out of 5)

A faithful adaptation of the novel by Arthur Golden, *Memoirs of a Geisha* is the story of Chiyo, a child who is sold by her poor family to a geisha house. There she works as an unpaid servant until Mameha, a successful geisha, takes Chiyo under her wing and makes her into the Geisha Sayuri. Sayuri overcomes jealousies and intrigues to become an immediate success but suffers from a love she cannot have. Beautifully executed, the scenery and costuming is lush and gorgeous. I didn't buy the love story but would recommend this movie to anyone inclined to see it.

— Amy Tariq, LAPD



My Score: 3.5 (out of 5)

I enjoyed this movie, but at times it was a little slow. It may appeal more to those who enjoy love stories. Ziyi Zhang stars as Sayuri, a girl who was taken from her family and later becomes the most sought-after geisha. Throughout the movie, she is torn between following her dream and following her heart. This movie is suitable for teens.

— Rotundra Greene, Airports



Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

The darkest Harry Potter film so far (and my favorite), *Goblet of Fire* sets the tone for the rest of the Harry Potter saga. The reconvening of the Death Eaters and the rise of a corporeal Voldemort create a more dangerous wizarding world. New challenges facing Harry this year include being entered into a potentially deadly competition and (gasp!) having to ask a girl out to the Yule Ball. Great adaptation without following all the storylines of the 700-plus-page book. I highly recommend this movie to all. If you're not a Harry Potter fan yet, just rent the first three before watching.

— Amy Tariq, LAPD

Fun with Dick and Jane

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

My score: 4 (out of 5)

Fun with Dick and Jane is a hilarious comedy about a couple forced into a life of crime after an Enron-type scandal at the company Dick works for eliminates not only their income, but their savings and retirement as well. Trying to keep up with the Joneses has never been so insane, and grand theft auto, forgery, bank robbery, petty theft, and human trafficking has never got the laughs it does here. If you need a good laugh, and you know you do, go see this movie.

— Amy Tariq, LAPD



My Score: 3 (out of 5)

The movie started out slow. Jim Carrey and Tea Leoni are married and lose their jobs. Carrey worked for a company like Enron, where everyone in the company loses their pension money because of the owner, played by Alec Baldwin. Carrey and Leoni, after not being able to find jobs, start robbing businesses. This is where the movie gets funny. They should have had more robbery scenes. Then Carrey and Leoni decide to get Baldwin. They scam him out of his money and place it back into the employee's pension fund. It was entertaining though it dragged at times.

— Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

Munich

Rated R, Adults

My score: 4 (out of 5)

Steven Spielberg's *Munich* is a heavy film. A little too long, but it makes you think. It's centered on a team of ex-Mossad (Israeli government intelligence agency) agents assigned to assassinate the terrorists behind the slayings of the Israeli Olympic team in 1972. The group starts with gung-ho patriotism with the main character facing serious doubts by the end. How does a government respond when facing evil? What will you personally sacrifice to fight terrorism? It starts off fact-based, the middle is a pretty good thriller and it ends with hard questions that don't have easy answers.

— Amy Tariq, LAPD



My Score: 1 (out of 5)

I did not like this movie at all. It was all about getting even. I didn't even think there was really a point to this movie. It seemed to end right at the middle. It made no sense to me. I wish I asked for my money back!

— Patty Saucier, DWP



Walk the Line

Rated PG, Adults and children

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Based on the life of Johnny Cash, this biopic stars Joaquin Phoenix as the legendary country star. The movie traces Cash's humble beginnings to his rise to fame. It is an entertaining movie filled with

Cash's music, but I couldn't help feeling that it only scratched the surface of this complicated life. The best part of the movie is the relationship of Cash and his second wife, June Carter, played by Reese Witherspoon. The chemistry between the two actors brings life to the story. If you saw last year's *Ray* with Jamie Foxx, you'll be surprised at the similar paths of these two singers. See if you can point them out as you watch the film.

— Dan Basilgo, LAPD

Cheaper by the Dozen 2

Rated PG, Adults and children

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This movie was definitely funny. Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Eugene Levy and Carmen Electra are in this movie, along with those who play Martin's 12 children. Martin and Hunt take their 12 children to a lake for a family vacation. Martin runs into an old friend, Eugene Levy, who has eight children. The movie is about Martin and Levy's children in competition with each other and also some romances among the children. Though it is a comedy, there is actually a message about how important family is. I definitely recommend this movie if you need a good laugh.

— Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD



My Score: 3.75 (out of 5)

If you saw the first one, you will enjoy this one. I thought it was as good as the first. It is a fun-filled movie good for the whole family. Steve Martin and Bonnie Hunt are back as the parents of 12 children. They all go away for the summer, where they meet old rival Eugene Levy (who has quickly become a favorite of mine) and his third wife (Carmen Elektra) and his eight children. I also thought it was cool that Hilary Duff, who has starred in a few films, came back to co-star in this movie.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP



The Family Stone

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This was an unexpected delight. I originally was not planning to see this, because the commercial did not interest me. But I am glad I went because I thoroughly enjoyed it. This is a very good comedy/drama about a man bringing home his girlfriend to meet his family. The family hates her. She calls her sister to come, and of course the family loves her. The entire cast, which includes Sarah Jessica Parker, Dermot Mulroney, Diane Keaton, Rachel McAdams, Claire Danes and Craig T. Nelson, was wonderful. I laughed and I cried. Go see this one!

— Gail Seltzer, DWP



Capote

Rated R, Adults

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Based on the life of flamboyant writer Truman Capote, the movie focuses on the time when he began writing the book, *In Cold Blood*, the based-on-truth story of the grisly murders of a Kansas family and their killers. This is an interesting and enlightening movie. I really enjoyed Phillip Seymour Hoffman as Capote. He captures his manner and distinctive voice. Great film.

— Dan Basilgo, LAPD



King Kong

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Big ape falls in love with pretty girl. But this is three hours of big-screen fun. Naomi Watts plays the damsel who Kong falls for. The special effects are awesome, especially on Skull Island, where we meet Kong and a host of dinosaurs, bats and insects (way too many bugs!). The movie moves along at a good pace, but I found the transition to bringing Kong to New York less exciting and Kong's time on the Empire State Building anticlimactic. The big monkey never had a chance! All in all, a great escapist movie.

— Dan Basilgo, LAPD



Transamerica

Rated R, Adults

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

An unusual and funny road trip about a transgendered person and her newly discovered son from her life as a male. Felicity Huffman is incredible as this interesting character, trying to adjust to her new life and strive for acceptance. It is quite an adventure from New York to Los Angeles with her rebellious son and the people they meet along the way. It is a movie about acceptance told in a fun way.

— Dan Basilgo, LAPD

Last Holiday

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

My Score: 4.75 (out of 5)

Long live the Queen! Queen Latifah, that is! I loved this movie. I loved the story, and all of the actors were just perfect in their roles. Besides the Queen, I especially enjoyed LL Cool J, who wants to get together with the Queen, and Gerard Depardieu as the chef.

I always enjoy movies with Queen Latifah, and this one is no exception. This is a movie I will definitely see again, as well as buy the DVD when it comes out. If you are ready to laugh and enjoy a movie, this is a must-see.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP



My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Loved it! It made me laugh. It made me cry. It always left me wondering what will happen next. I highly recommend this movie to everyone!

Queen Latifah was great! I liked the way she transposed herself from shy and common to glamorous and the life of the party. I loved the wardrobe. I also love when dreams come true. LL Cool J was just adorable.

— Patty Saucier, DWP



Rumor Has It

Rated PG-13, Adults and teens

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Shirley MacLaine steals the show! She makes the movie worth seeing. It is so sad that there are not that many roles for these older actresses/legends.

I thought that Jennifer Aniston and Mark Ruffalo gave very good performances, but I don't think they had any chemistry whatsoever. I did like Jennifer with Kevin Costner, who turned in an excellent performance. The story was cute but a little slow at times. If you're a fan of Shirley MacLaine, I would definitely go see this. Otherwise, I might wait and rent it. There are a lot of movies right now playing.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

Next Month's Theme:

We have chosen Movies Based on Actual Events for March'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!



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, 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



Douglas Shur,
President

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 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.

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)



Jackie Zarate, President

The Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA) was established in 1971 and was the first City recognized employee Affirmative Action Association. Membership is 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 or write to LACECA, P.O. Box 53590, Los Angeles, CA 90053.

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 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.

Affirmative Action Association for Women



Cecilia Weldon,
AAAW President

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.

The British and Dominion Social Club



Michael Barnes,
President

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 for more info.

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.

Water and Power African American Association

The Water and Power African American Association strengthens the foundation of African American employees at the DWP by advancing the employment, education, economic and social welfare of its members and the community.

Its aim is to encourage unity among African American employees.

The Water and Power African American Association aims to strengthen the foundation of African American employees at Water and Power by helping to promote Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action, by pooling resources and expertise to enhance self-determination and self-respect, and by demanding effective training and career counseling that will enhance career advancement.

The Water and Power African Association is a recognized organization of the City of Los Angeles.

Information: www.wpaaa.org

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**. Men especially welcome.

Call Lourdes Zerrudo,
(213) 367-1405, or
send an email to
Lourdes.Zerrudo@ladwp.com

Send the notice to:
bulletinboard
@cityemployeesclub.com

Club Store

OFFICIAL CLUB MERCHANDISE & DISCOUNT TICKETS



Mens Silver Color, Embossed City Seal, Leather Band
MODEL: #1161-XSB
PRICE: \$64.97



Mens Full Color City Seal, Black Band
MODEL: #1245
PRICE: \$36.00

Ladies Full Color City Seal, Black Band
MODEL: #2245
PRICE: \$36.00



Mens Silver Color, Embossed City Seal
MODEL: #1051
PRICE: \$54.46



Mens Gold Color, Embossed City Seal
MODEL: #1673
PRICE: \$76.54



Black/Silver Color Pendant, Embossed City Seal
MODEL: #1494-XBK
PRICE: \$43.23



Ladies Silver Color, Embossed City Seal
MODEL: #2051
PRICE: \$54.46

City Seal Watches

These watches have been meticulously crafted using only high-quality quartz movements in hypoallergenic casings.

Los Angeles, Views of the Past & Present

An excellent example of what Los Angeles looked like in its humble beginnings compared to the present day. Photographs by the world famous George Ross Jezek.

Club Discount Price.....\$25.00
(\$32.95 Retail)



Orange County, Views of the Past & Present

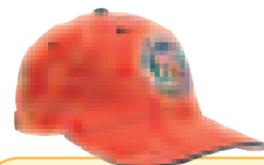
An excellent example of what Orange County looked like in its humble beginnings compared to the present day. Photographs by the world famous George Ross Jezek.

Club Discount Price.....\$25.00
(\$32.95 Retail)



City Seal and Club Logo Hats!

High quality embroidered ball caps!



Orange with City Seal: \$10.00 each



Black with City Seal: \$10.00 each



Orange with City Seal and City of Los Angeles script: \$10.00 each



Dark Blue with City Employees Club of Los Angeles logo: \$7.00 each



Khaki with City Employees Club of Los Angeles logo: \$7.00 each



Dark Blue with City Seal: \$10.00 each



Black with City Seal and City of Los Angeles script: \$12.50 each

FOR EASY ORDERING OF DISCOUNT TICKETS AND CLUB MERCHANDISE:

ONLINE

Go to www.cityemployeesclub.com and click on "Ticket Express"



PHONE



Call (888) 777-1744
or
Fax (213) 620-0398

MAIL

Complete the order form to the left and mail to:

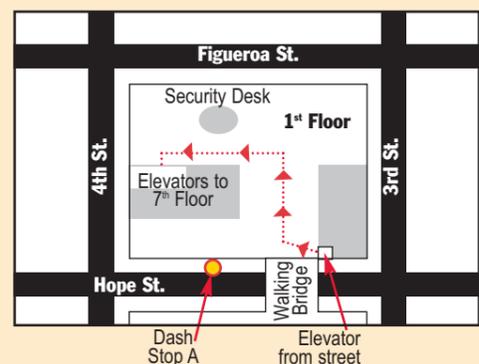
Ticket Guy
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
350 S. Figueroa St., Ste. 700
Los Angeles, CA 90071



PICK-UP

**350 South Figueroa St.
Suite 700**

Take the Dash "A" Route and get off at the World Trade Center stop. Take the outside elevator to the 1st floor. Go west into the building and then make a left. Take the main elevators to the 7th floor.



For Dash routes, go to:
www.ladottransit.com/dash/routes

Help protect your family and home with **BRINKS HOME SECURITY**

- You could Save Up to 20% on Homeowners Insurance
- Dedicated to Rapid Response and Peace of Mind



Call Now!
1-800-826-8188

Standard System Installation ONLY \$49*

Plus call today and receive a

FREE*

Smoke/Heat Detector Installation

That's a \$165 value!

Save **\$165**



*Call for information on Brink's monitoring fees and other terms. OFFER REQUIRES ENROLLMENT IN BRINK'S EASYPAY™ AUTO PAYMENT. Three-year monitoring agreement required. Applicable taxes and permit fees not included. Offer may not be combined with any other discount and is subject to change. Home ownership and credit approval required. Home must be located in a Brink's service area. The Best Buy seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license. ©2005 Brink's Home Security, 8880 Esters Blvd., Irving, TX 75063. CA#AC03843. Offer ends February 28, 2006

Call Antonio Cervantes!
1-800-826-8188

MEMBER Benefits

Discount Tickets

- Buy tickets by Phone, Mail, or Web site
- Theme parks and attractions (up to 70% off)
- Movies - all major screens (up to 70% off)
- Plays, musicals, the arts, sports events

Alive! Newspaper

- Births, weddings, retirements, deaths
- Free Classifieds
- Retirees Corner
- Department of the Month
- DWP news
- Opinion column
- Movie reviews
- Organized Club information
- Cooking Recipes

Group Rated Insurance Products

- Term Life Insurance
- Long Term Disability
- Short Term Disability Insurance
- Long Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance
- Legal Services Plan
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Plus...

- The Famous "Refund Check"
- Pet Insurance

More Benefits

- Free Notary Service
- Scholarships
- Employee-of-the-Year Award



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



John Hawkins
President & CEO



Brian G. Trent
Chief Financial Officer



Robert Larios
Director of Communications & Marketing



Navin Cotton
Vendor Relations Coordinator "Ticket Guy"



Cecilia Talbot
Claims Administrator



Jessica Segura
Claims Assistant



Leigh Thompson
Controller



Trinh Pham
Senior Accountant



Michael Anderson
Information Technology Manager



Alan Bound
Information Technology Programmer



Summy Lam
IT Business Analyst



Sara Fama
I.T. Coordinator



Lupe Medina
Administrative Services Representative



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.

(800)464-0452