

**Send us your Letters!**  
 Members Speak Out  
 PAGE 3  
 Your thoughts are important to us and your fellow City and DWP employees.



Former LACEA/Club employee Leticia Medina Torres having fun processing the refund checks, approximately 1990.

## Bigger and Better: The Club Celebrates 75 Years of Serving You



■ **It's time to revisit how the association started 75 years ago ... and how it has grown to meet your needs.**

In 1928, approximately 20 forward-thinking City employees teamed up to purchase life insurance, understanding they could do so less expensively as a group than as individuals. These employees arranged with the City for insurance payroll deductions, forming an organization – the Los Angeles City Employees Association – that 75 years later, as your City Employees Club, continues to fulfill its original purpose plus much, much more.

While today's Club remains true to its heritage, it also has grown and changed over the years to best serve City employees. When McDonough joined the association, it had \$50,000 in a savings account, and offered its original life insurance product to members. Today, the Club provides some 30 insurance products and financial protection programs,



Cutting the "ribbon" at the then-new LACEA headquarters in the Los Angeles Mall, 1987. The LACEA/Club is now located in the World Trade Center downtown.

"Essentially, the mission always has been to provide benefits that were the highest quality and lowest price because the association felt it should serve the member and the member's family," said Club President & CEO, Danna McDonough, who has been the association's top executive since 1979. Shortly after her arrival, the association officially captured this principle in a mission statement it still adheres to today: "We will be the best source of information and low-cost, high-quality financial protection programs for Los Angeles City employees."

and maintains reserves of \$5 million, with an operating budget of more than \$1 million annually. Over the years, it also has changed

*See Club History, Page 3*

## Mail Services Thanks Its Workers in First-Ever Event

■ **Safety, perfect attendance and great customer service are recognized at luncheon sponsored by General Services.**

The Department of General Services recognized the Mail Services Division with an employee appreciation day Dec. 12. The event was held in City Hall's Tom Bradley Observation Tower. Mail Services employees were honored with lunch, achievement certificates in Safety, Perfect Attendance and Exemplary Customer Service. MSD staff expressed gratitude as the event marked the first ever in Mail Services' history. General Manager Jon K. Mukri expressed his appreciation for the service and dedication provided by MSD's staff and stated that each City



**Chandra Mosley, Mail Services Manager General Services Dept.**

*See Appreciation, Page 5*

**In This Issue**

- Your Letters . . . . . 3
- CLUB's Guiding Principles . . . 3
- Minding Your Money . . . . . 4
- Mail Service Dept. Awards . . . 5
- Life's Important Moments . . . . 6
- Convention Center  
 Holiday Celebration . . . . . 8
- Board of Directors . . . . . 9
- General Services Dept.  
 Holiday Celebration . . . . . 10
- Dept. of the Month: . . . . . 12  
 Harbor Department
- Just for Retirees . . . . . 15
- Around the City . . . . . 16
- Free Classifieds . . . . . 17
- Cooking With the Club . . . . . 18
- Claims Update . . . . . 18
- Discount Tickets . . . . . 19
- Understanding Your Benefits . . 20

## The Life She Saved Ultimately Changed Hers

■ **While on duty, DOT Traffic Officer Barbara Hartsfield saved a life, but only later learned the full lesson.**



**DOT Traffic Officer, Barbara Hartsfield**

Some of us have made left turns in life. Barbara Hartsfield made a left turn, and ended up saving a life. And changing her own.

The traffic officer for the Department of Transportation had just arrived at a traffic hazard September 30 when fate stepped in.

"I had just come back from an impound hearing in the Valley when I got the call to relieve another officer" at a hazard site near where Fountain Avenue turns into Hyperion Avenue, she recalls. "When I arrived, I asked the officer if it was okay if I make a quick run to the restroom and then to get something to

*See Hero, Page 7*

# Alive!

January 2003 Volume 2 – No. 1

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From the President & CEO  
**Danna L. McDonough**



## Club Might Be New, But Commitment To Service Remains as Strong as Ever

*The new year,  
2003,  
promises fresh  
and different  
things for each  
one of us.*

For some of us, continuity and constancy are comforting. For generation Xers and Ys, continuity might be boring and tiresome. So, while LACEA's nearly 75 years of history and tradition are relevant to city employees who have been around awhile, some of you are turned on by the exciting and different new City Employees Club. It promises fun, with new people to see and places to go. But that's not all. Along with the Club's newness, our commitment to serving you is as strong as ever.

You still want to be able to trust the people taking money out of your paycheck. You certainly want a real person to answer the phone when you call. It's really cool when the guy who takes your ticket order can give you some great ideas for dates or that special night out and saves you money besides. You want to see your friends in the newspaper and hear about your buddy's new baby. And maybe you'll find something you've always wanted in the classified ads. You know you can put whatever you want into this newspaper and get exactly what you expect when you tell us what you're interested in reading or seeing.

And then there are our old friends, who still need someone to talk to about insurance, or about how best to provide for someone you love in old age.

The best of our past is still here. The answers to the problems facing us today in this busy, complex world can be found at the end of the phone line or on the Website. The future will be exactly what you want it to be at the City Employees Club. Just imagine and it can happen.

Sure there's some of us who have been around a while, and there are some brand new, high-energy youngsters raring to go with enthusiastic new ideas. But we all have something in common, we are at your service just like we were yesterday but wonderfully reinvigorated, rejuvenated and looking at all that is possible today and tomorrow.

Have a great new year! 🎉

### Numbers YOU CAN USE

Here's a list of helpful telephone numbers for you:

<b>City Employees Club of Los Angeles</b>	(213) 620-0388	<b>DWP Credit Union</b>	(213) 580-1690
<b>City Employees Club of Los Angeles FAX</b>	(213) 620-0398	<b>DWP Employees Assn.</b>	(213) 367-3146
<b>City Employees Deferred Compensation</b>	(213) 485-4846	<b>DWP Information</b>	(213) 367-4211
<b>City Employees Benefit Office</b>	(213) 485-2440	<b>DWP Paymaster</b>	(213) 367-4423
<b>City Employees Retirement System</b>	(213) 473-7200	<b>DWP Personnel</b>	(213) 367-1934
<b>City Paymaster</b>	(213) 485-5087	<b>DWP Retirement Plan Office</b>	(213) 367-1712
<b>City Personnel Office</b>	(213) 847-9240	<b>Local 347</b>	(213) 482-6660
<b>City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090</b>	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340	<b>Los Angeles Federal Credit Union</b>	(213) 485-5000
		<b>Retired L.A. City Employees, Inc.</b>	(213) 255-9082
		<b>Whistleblower/Complaint Program</b>	(800) 824-4825

Have a number you'd like us to include? Send it in: alive@cityemployeesclub.com

## Member Benefits

■ As a member of the Club you have access to a host of valuable services and products:

### Discount Tickets

- TICKET EXPRESS: Buy tickets by Phone, Mail, or Website
- 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 and deaths
- Free Classifieds
- Retirees Corner
- News that matters!
- Department of the Month
- Opinion column
- Movie reviews
- Organized club information

### Club Card

- Show your card and save at hundreds of businesses in L.A. and throughout the country

### Group Rated Insurance Products

- Term Life Insurance
- Long Term Disability
- Short Term Disability Insurance
- Long Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance
- Critical Care Insurance
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Plus...

- The Famous "Refund Check" - 8% of premiums returned in 2002!
- Prepaid Legal Insurance
- Pet Insurance

### More Benefits

- Free Notary Service
- Scholarships
- Employee-of-the-Year Award



## Join the Club!

All active or retired City of Los Angeles and DWP employees are eligible to become members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.

To join, call  
(800) 464-0452.

Enjoy all these benefits for only \$4 per month for active employees, or \$2 per month for retired employees.

Look for new services and products to be added soon!



# 75 Years of Serving Members

## Club History

*Continued from page 1*

insurance companies and brokers to bring City employees and retirees enhanced, more substantive plans.

These changes for the better have helped the association maintain its legacy of providing annual refunds to life insurance participants after paying out claims and administrative expenses. Since 1980, the association has issued such refunds in all but two years.

The transition to the new City Employees Club builds on the association's historic strengths while also helping to connect and support City employees with an exciting community- and family-oriented network of information and discounted products, plus events like the annual ClubFest party.

"The new Club encompasses all of the things upon which our reputation is based, and the new direction to create community and establish affinity," McDonough said. "We're now banding together for fun, not unlike how we banded together for insurance."

According to McDonough, the future is absolutely unlimited and "only bounded by a lack of imagination" in terms of the potential products and services the Club can provide – whether they be child care and elder care services, or resources for caretakers, or support for employees who have lost a spouse.

From the day she took the job at the association, "I really envisioned this organization as being a safety net for City employees," McDonough added. "The underlying motivation is doing what's best for City employees, not what is profitable." 🏠



On the occasion of its 50th anniversary in 1978, the LACEA/The Club accepted a plaque from Occidental Life Insurance, an insurance provider to the LACEA. Accepting the plaque from Occidental's Meno T. Lake (right) are (from left) Charles Sullivan, past president of the LACEA's Board of Control, and Charles Port, then-president of the Board of Control.

### Wanna be heard?

How long have you been a member of the Association/The Club? Let us know. Or tell us what you think about this article: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Always a Clear Vision: The Club's Guiding Principles

■ Your City Employees Club uses the following mission and shared values to guide its operation and ensure you receive the first-rate service you deserve:

### Our Mission

We will be the best source of information and low-cost, high-quality financial protection programs for Los Angeles City employees.

### Shared Values

We share the following values as a Board and staff, striving constantly to translate the values into our work with our members, colleagues and City employees:

- ⇒ **Honesty and Integrity:** We stand by our word, consistently and rigorously, following through on all commitments.
- ⇒ **Respect for Others:** We cherish diversity and respect for each individual's need for a balanced and satisfying life. We show the utmost respect for every person with whom we deal regardless of his or her status or the situation at hand. We look for the good in each other and learn to understand and respect our differences.
- ⇒ **Personal and Professional Experience:** We manage our individual careers and lives according to our own highest personal and professional standards. We see challenge, risk-taking and life-long learning as vital to creativity and excellence in all we do.
- ⇒ **Open Communication:** We speak our hearts and minds and share information on a timely basis to build trusting, productive relationships. We listen with sensitivity to others' viewpoints, making every effort to hear – rather than judge – new ideas and approaches. We each actively take responsibility for the healthy morale of the entire association by practicing self-restraint and diplomacy in all situations.
- ⇒ **Teamwork:** We collaborate with each other and with those whom we serve to achieve common objectives. These partnerships raise the quality of our contributions and add spirit, humor and perspective to our work. We are continuously aware of our attitude and actions and the effect they have on our team's work.
- ⇒ **Good Citizenship:** We resolve to be good citizens – to actively seek opportunities to make a positive difference in the communities we serve.
- ⇒ **Customer Service:** We continually provide the highest level of customer service possible to all who come in contact with the association, whether a member or not. *Every* phone call and personal contact will be one that our members and non-members remember as a most pleasant experience and feel as though they have just made a good friend.

## Members Speak Out



### Wanna be heard?

Write to us! It's *your* page. Have something to say? Overjoyed about something? Angered? Just have a question? Here's your chance to get it off your chest... and get it into print. (We'll print what we can.) Share your ideas with your City family. Don't wait! Send them to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

*New!*

*From the Club!*



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To order CLUB travel mugs, complete the order form on page 19.

# Minding Your Money

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## Ouch! All That Holiday Spending Leave You in a Mountain of Debt?

■ You can start to move out of debt in just a few relatively painless steps.

It really was fun – the shopping, the parties, the decorations, even the trips, hectic as they were. But now it's January and the reality sets in. You think to yourself, "Now is the time to start over, make things better, *stick to my resolutions.*" Then a week later the credit card bills come in – and then ...

Suddenly the determined optimism turns to hopelessness as you seem to fall into the abyss of debt. The average consumer has four credit cards, with an average balance of \$3,900 each, for a total of \$15,600 of debt<sup>(1)</sup> and spends an average of \$1.16 for every dollar earned, according to various reports<sup>(2)</sup>. Translated, that means that if you earn \$35,000 per year, you spend \$40,600 per year.

What about savings? Aren't you supposed to be saving for retirement? The average American saved a *negative* .8 percent (yes, that's negative) this past October<sup>(3)</sup>. So when you get those holiday bills coming due in January, it's only natural to feel a little bit of despair.

But the important thing to remember is that you can turn it all around. Wouldn't you like to go from having mounds of debt to mounds of money? It can be done, and believe it or not, it can be relatively painless. It takes three things:

1. **Determination**
2. **A very good plan**
3. **Self-control and/or a good coach**

If you're a homeowner, you've probably been approached by every lender that can

locate you with an offer to "refinance your home at the lowest rates in years – and pay off high interest debt, while saving on taxes." This can be achieved, but there are things to be wary of and a good financial adviser will tell you about them. Sometimes this is a good solution for people, but sometimes it can increase risk of losing money – *it's important to learn the downside risk as well as the upside potential.* I'll put money down on the fact that you're not getting all the information from the refi guys!

If you're not a homeowner, or refinancing doesn't make sense for you, there are other ways to eliminate your debt (at least the bad kind) and increase your wealth. A consolidation loan may be the best thing for you, or perhaps a well-thought out way of paying down your debt on a monthly basis. Most people haphazardly pay the minimum, or a little more than the minimum payment each month, thinking that someday they'll pay it off – but they don't have a solid plan, one that is the most effective and least expensive way to do it.



If you have questions or would like to meet with a financial adviser for a personal consultation, contact Nichole at (626) 441-0838, or through the Club e-mail: nichole@cityemployeesclub.com. Nichole is a principal at Polaris Financial, investment advisers and financial planners. Registered representatives offer advisory services through National Planning Corporation (NPC), member NASD/SIPC, a registered investment adviser. Polaris Financial and NPC are separate and unrelated companies. Polaris Financial provides discounted services to Club members.

Some people just need to restructure (or structure for the first time!) their budget, and they'll find a lot of "hidden" money available to pay off the debt.

*Did you know that a coffee house grand mocha per day costs \$1,277.50 each year? Add to that a blueberry scone and the cost jumps to \$1,825 per year. In other words, you may be able to pay off one credit card simply by giving up your coffee for one year, or maybe having one just a couple times a week!*

There are many options, but the important thing is to choose the option that is right for you. A financial adviser can help make that determination for you, and also inform you of the downside the "other guys" haven't told you about. *If you want to learn more about the most effective and least expensive ways to reduce your debt and grow financially independent, contact our office for a free consultation.* ■

### HELPFUL HINT

Some people want to be on marketers' lists for new product offers, but others don't. If you want to reduce the number of offers for credit cards and other financial products, call toll-free 888-5-OPTOUT [(888) 567-8688] to remove your name from marketing lists provided to creditors and other companies.

- (1) <http://www.moneytalk.org/mmOctober272002.htm>
- (2) <http://saintmartins.org/vision.shtml>
- (3) <http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/newsrel/pinewsrelease.htm>

Source: <http://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/news/cnfall02/guide.html>

To get a copy of the easy- to-understand **Choosing a Planner** information kit and checklist, contact Nichole and she'll mail one to you FREE: (626) 441-0838.

**NOTE:** When you leave your name and address, please speak slowly and clearly, and repeat it. We want to make sure we have the correct information to get you your information.

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Facsimile (818) 783-2617  
E-Mail david@sdacpa.com

# Mail Service Department Employees Recognized

## Appreciation

*Continued from page 1*

department is touched by their vital service that keeps the City moving forward.

Councilman Ed P. Reyes heard the joyful voices in the tower while conducting a tour and took a moment to also express his appreciation for the hard work witnessed daily by MSD staff. The festivities ended with a presentation of certificates that embraced the Mayor's goals and expressed the safety priorities of the General Manager. Twenty-three certificates were presented to recognize Safety awareness by avoiding injury on or off duty in 2002. Safety certificate recipients were



Jeannette Arnold, Kim Harris, Shaletha Scott, Vyron Frazier, Michael Hammersley, Terry Brummund, Ernest Bernal, Benjamin Sacro,

Esperanza Reynoso, Randy Gordon, Fred Knauf, Ying Mak, Margaret Moore, James Owsley, Kevin Ward, Pablito Adrados, Jack

Callies, Richard Castillo, David Meraz, David Pongvarin, James Steele, Derek Young and Ekundayo Paris.

Mail Services is managed by Chandra Mosley, who brings the Division to a higher level of quality service as her staff responds to the needs of 44 City departments and more than 11 million pieces of processed mail annually. Her goal is to continue educating the City on cost savings by using her Division's knowledge and services to slash uncontrolled postal rate increases. Mosley expressed appreciation to the managers of the Department of General Services (Tony Royster, Anthony De Clue and Jon K. Mukri) and to the staff and management of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles (and *Alive!*) for their support and role in making the day of thanks very special to MSD. 📧

### Wanna be heard?

Let us know what you think of the job that Mail Services is doing. Send your comments to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

*Mail Services  
Department,  
GSD*

# Award Recipients

*Congratulations!*

## Perfect Attendance AWARD



David Meraz



David "P" Pongvarin



Derrick young



Ernest Bernal



Ken Mack



Kim Harris



Michael Hammersley



Randy Gordon



Terry Brummund

## Exemplary Customer Service AWARD



**Exemplary Customer Service Award Recipients (LEFT-RIGHT):** Chandra Mosley, David Meraz, Kim Harris, Ken Mack, Michael Hammersley, Derrick Young, Tony De Clue, Tony Royster.

## Safety AWARD



**Safety certificate recipients:** (not in order) Jeannette Arnold, Kim Harris, Shaletha Scott, Vyron Frazier, Michael Hammersley, Terry Brummund, Ernest Bernal, Benjamin Sacro, Esperanza Reynoso, Randy Gordon, Fred Knauf, Ying Mak, Margaret Moore, James Owsley, Kevin Ward, Pablito Adrados, Jack Callies, Richard Castillo, David Meraz, David Pongvarin, James Steele, Derek Young and Ekundayo Paris.

# Life's Important Moments

Did you get married? Have a baby? (Yea!) Get a promotion? (Hooray!) Retire? (Ahhhh.) We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world!

Send all notices and digital photos to: [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com)

Send paper notices and print photos to:

*Alive!* 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

## Share your moments!



### Births

Property Officer (LAPD) Richard Kipp and his wife Adeidra Young became the proud parents of a baby boy, Keigon Tariq Kipp, on October 12, 2002, weighing in at 8 lbs 9 ozs. All are doing well.

Rolanda Dowd and her husband, Edward, on November 21, 2002, a daughter, Elonda Evon Dowd, 7 lbs 4 oz.

Kenneth Smith and his wife, Danielle, on October 3, 2002, a son, Kenneth William Smith III, 6 lbs 2 oz.

Steve Kim and his wife, You Jea, on December 11, 2002, a son, 6 lbs 3 oz. - All are doing well.

**Births:**

Send us the following information: full name of the newborn, date of birth, name of parents, job title of the parent(s) who work(s) for the city or the DWP, your phone number and a baby photo. Send to [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com)



### Weddings

Congratulations to the following members of the City Employees Club family who tied the knot:



**Dorothy & James Dillard**

Remarried (after 25 years) in Inglewood California, Nov. 30, 2002. Dorothy is the Dept. of General Services Emergency Program Coordinator and City Employees Club Board member. James is a former Dept. of Airports Police Officer.



**Bob & Lindsay Hill**

Married in Carmel California, July 20th, 2002. Bob is a Telecommunications Supervisor (Civil service title: Communications Electrician Supervisor) with DWP. Lindsay is a fifth grade school teacher.



**Tommy L. Gibbs Jr. & Cheryl Lynn Gibbs**

Married in Inglewood California, Sept. 14, 2002. Tommy is a Water Utility Superintendent. Cheryl is a Supervisor with ITA.

**Weddings:**

Recently married? Congratulations! Share the news with your city employee family. Tell us the names of the bride and groom, the date and place of the wedding, and the City or DWP job title of the bride and/or groom. (Include a photo, too, and we'll try to print it.) Send it in! [alive@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:alive@cityemployeesclub.com)



### In Memoriam

Our thoughts and condolences are with the family and friends of the following current and retired City employees who have died:

- |                      |                      |                   |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Walker Anderson      | Violet Fitzgerald    | Frank Marcoux     |
| Juanita Antoine      | Robert Arthur Gerber | Gladys Moore      |
| Jack Bader           | Lucinda Hammatt      | Dorothy Nobles    |
| Amos Bell            | Violet Hargaden      | Margarito Quiroz  |
| Jerri Bell           | Dorset Harris        | Rose Regis        |
| Vinka Bell           | John Hereford        | George Richardson |
| Sharon Kay Bowman    | Cynthia Hollinshead  | Robert Riley      |
| David Brewer         | John Horan           | Ralph Rosenberger |
| Michael Buggs        | Benjamin James       | Olive Rulon       |
| Charles Burnett      | Junko Jofuku         | Sue Shimamoto     |
| Edward Carey         | Martha Jones         | Leo Sirchuk       |
| Hazel Craig          | Florence Keim        | Lindsey Thomas    |
| Joseph Crane         | Helen Kieffer        | Dolores Tyus      |
| Isaiah Crowe         | Karl Koehler         | Lillian Walker    |
| F. Cruz-Aedo         | Charlotte Kraals     | David Warren      |
| L.C. Davis           | Stanley Lanham       | Mary Welsler      |
| Marguerite Dougherty | Clarence Lewis       | Jessie Williamson |
| Elaine Enbody        | Lucile Lipman        | Cecil Wilson      |

**In Memoriam:**

We receive this information directly from the City and the DWP. But send us the name of the deceased, and we'll print the notice. Send in a photo of the deceased, too, if you have one, and include your phone number. Send to [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com).



### Promotions

**Promotions:**

Send us your department, your former job title, your new job, and a sentence saying your supervisor is aware that you're sending this. Send your photo, too, plus your phone number. Send to [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com).

**Photo Submission Guidelines:**

- Do not send any photo that you cannot replace.
- If you want a photo returned, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope. (Write the name on the back of the photo.)
- We strongly prefer digital photos that can be e-mailed. However, make sure the resolution is at least 200 dpi. Photos from the Web are usually not good enough.
- We will print what we can in the space available.



## Retirements

*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!

NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
Charles Adams	Sr. Civil Engineer (Airports)	33
Kenneth Baechle	Auditor (Transportation)	20
James Barker	Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic (Gen. Services)	18
Floyd Bateman	Maintenance and Construction Helper (Harbors)	16
Vona Brogdon	Communications Operator (Info. Tech)	43
Kenneth Burmer	Landscape Architect (Rec and Parks)	34
Louise Cancino	Crossing Guard (Transportation)	9
Dorothy Cutchins	Clerk Typist (Airports)	30
Henry Davis	Deputy Treasurer (Treasurer)	28
Mark Dearing	Sr. Electrician (Airports)	25
Patricia Douds	Sr. Clerk Typist (LAPD)	22
Joe Douglas	Truck Operator (Solid Resources Collection)	41
Yu Mei Du	Accountant (Retirement)	12
Clinton Erickson	Wastewater Treatment Operator (Tillman)	31
Ronald Evans	Land Surveying Asst. (DWP)	14
Edmond Ferrante	Supervisor (Rec and Parks)	35
Wallace Gilkey	Traffic Officer (Transportation)	14
Fidel Gomez	Truck Operator (Solid Resources Collection)	23
George Harris	Repairer (Rec and Parks)	22
Judith Herman	Librarian (Libraries)	22
Salvador Hernandez	Truck Operator (Solid Resources Collection)	11
Patricia Heyne	Sr. Personnel Analyst (Rec and Parks)	31
Harry Johnson	Traffic Officer (Transportation)	30
William Johnson	Storekeeper (Gen. Services)	33
Frank Jones	Maintenance Supervisor (DWP)	45
Curtis Jordan	Motor Sweeper Operator (DWP)	34
Norma Laine	Chief of Operations (Airports)	35
Patricia Lydon	Clerk (LAPD)	31
Norman Martin	Boat Operator (Harbors)	33
Robert McCloud	Supervisor (Airports)	9
Larry Mills	Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic (Gen. Services)	32
Don Nelson	Plumber (Harbors)	30
Leon Older	Sr. Systems Analyst (LAFD)	37
Zbyslaw Petryka	Sr. Chemist (Environmental Monitoring)	10
Larry Sakamoto	Property Officer (LAPD)	44
Stephanie Sautner	Deputy City Attorney (City Attorney)	8
Virginia Schragel	Sr. Management Analyst (Community Development)	17
Gladys Searle	City Planner (City Planning)	9
Boun Somsouk	Geographic Info. Specialist (DWP)	18
William Spann	Equipment Operator (Rec and Parks)	35
Gerald Stevens	Librarian (Libraries)	26
Wayne Thomas	Construction Inspector (Airports)	36
Annetta Vernon	Sr. Animal Control Officer (Animal Regulation)	17
Leonard Victoria	Payroll Supervisor (Cultural Affairs)	11
Patricia Wallace Jones	Management Analyst (LAPD)	25
Gary Watson	Instrument Mechanic (Hyperion)	33
James Westbrooke	Truck Operator (Solid Resources Collection)	16
Lee Williams	Maintenance Laborer (Gen. Services)	19
Donica Wood	Sr. Clerk Typist (Finance)	13

**Retirements:**

*Alive!* receives retirement information from both the City and DWP. If you've just recently retired, we'd love to hear your story. Send us your picture along with a few sentences about your career and what you're planning and include your phone number. Send to [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com).



# Department of Transportation Officer Saves a Life

## Hero

*Continued from page 1*

eat, as I hadn't had the chance to do either one all morning. He said it was fine.

"So I started to make a U-turn to leave, but something told me to make just a left turn instead, and go back. To this day, I have no idea why I did that."

When she did, she met Jim Whitrock, slumped over the wheel of his 1963 Ford pickup. He was not breathing. She checked for a pulse and found none.

She remembers exactly what she said to herself, but it's not printable.

"So I ran over to the passenger side and pulled him down so that he was lying across the seat," she continues. "And then I started CPR. I learned how to do CPR, and became certified for it, for my kids.

"While doing CPR, I was trying to speak on my radio," she says. "I would alternate between him and my radio. It would have been comical had it not been so tragic.

"Finally, I got what I thought was a response from him. A woman, who happened to be a doctor, came by and found a pulse. And in 30 seconds, the Fire Department came by, stabilized him and took him away."

In a way, the incident was the ultimate proof, if unplanned, of the effectiveness of Hartsfield's group, the Tom Squad. That's "T" for traffic – she belongs to an elite group created in July as a result of a directive, funded by Mayor James Hahn and the City

Council, to create traffic officers to respond directly to public calls. "Maybe some people were feeling that they were not getting the service they deserved," Hartsfield says. So the Tom Squad, eight officers headquartered in



DOT Traffic Officer, Barbara Hartsfield

Photo courtesy Kenneth Heinsius/DOT

Hollywood, was created. It's been funded for just one year, she says, but she's confident it will be re-funded.

"It's been a tremendous success," says Hartsfield, who left her job as a paralegal to

come work for the DOT six years ago.

Her life-saving effort, even though it's a bit extreme of the typical daily duties of the Tom Squad, would seem the perfect cap to a successful program. Job done, worth proved,

life," she says. "To be there to save him, that day. As much as it means to him, it means more to me. He is still here, during the holidays or whenever, for his family to hold and touch. "I feel like I was chosen to do that.

When I go past that street now, it feels like a shrine to me. It takes my breath away. To save a life ...", she says, her voice trailing off. A few weeks after the event, Whitrock came by her station to meet her, and in a quiet moment, thank her and cry with her.

During that reunion, she realized that they had frequented the same coffee shop for years. But they had never really met before.

"We had been near each other for years, but never met," she continues. "There is a reason we are all here. It might sound trite, but we are all connected," she says, quietly. "And we hardly ever realize it.

"My life has turned around. We don't think about how connected we are in our daily lives. Well, I do. Now. All the petty stuff just doesn't matter.

"It has made me more respectful of life. I was there when he needed me. Destiny brought us together.

"Traffic Officers take the lives of others into our hands every day. I know that more than ever now.

"I really made a difference." 🏆

case closed, right?

Not exactly. Hartsfield felt the true impact of the event weeks later. She's still working through it.

"I can't really tell you how it feels to save a

### Wanna be heard?

Tell us what you think of this article, or send congratulations to Traffic Officer Barbara Hartsfield: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Praise From the People



People keep saying great things about the service they receive from The Club. Here are just some of their comments:

“The administrators assigned to my case were respectful, caring and responsive.

My questions were answered in a prompt and courteous manner, and research was done, when needed, to ensure proper conclusions were reached.”

— Loretta Salmon

“[The service was] good to excellent. The assistants were thoughtful and considerate, and they did great follow-up, offering assistance.”

— Andrew McClendon

“The service was very professional. Everyone was very helpful at this difficult time and very professional, and I thank them.”

— Barbara Jackson

“I just wanted to thank [my representative] for the letter you wrote back to me on the account of my daughter who was killed in a car accident.

Your sympathy was greatly appreciated. I can't tell you the feeling of loss that I have experienced and continue to feel. I am glad there are people like you that care enough to respond to a person's question of concern when it is needed the most. Thank you.”

— Victoria Pop

## Worried About Market Volatility?

Seek Participation In Some Of The Stock Market's Upside Potential With A Five-Year Guarantee



The U.S. stock market has often rewarded long-term investors with above-average returns. However, continued market volatility has heightened many investors' concerns. If you would like the potential for some capital growth but are uncomfortable with exposing your portfolio to loss,\* you should consider investing in the **Smith Barney Capital Preservation Fund II**.

Please call Eric Garcia, Financial Consultant at (626) 683-4621 for more information.

He can provide you with a free prospectus that contains more complete information, including charges, expenses and risks. Please read it carefully before you invest or send money.

\*Smith Barney Capital Preservation Fund II protects your investment from loss for five years. When you hold your investment until the end of the five-year Guarantee Period, on the Guarantee Maturity Date your account will be worth no less than your initial investment (less sales charges) at the end of the Offering Period, minus any redemptions, dividends and distributions you have received in cash and certain Fund expenses, such as interest, taxes and extraordinary expenses. If you choose to redeem your investment on any other day than the Guarantee Maturity Date, the amount returned could be less than that invested. If you sell your shares during the Guarantee Period, shares are redeemed at the current NAV, which may be more or less than your original investment. The guarantee is based on the amount invested as of the first day of the Guarantee Period and does not apply to any earnings realized during the Guarantee Period. Use of the fixed income component during the Guarantee Period could be significant and will reduce the Fund's ability to participate in upward equity market movements and therefore represents some loss of opportunity, or opportunity cost, compared to a portfolio that's more heavily invested in equities. There will be times during the Guaranteed Period when the Fund's allocation of assets to equities may be substantially limited or entirely precluded. Your ability to receive the Guaranteed Amount depends on the financial condition of the Fund and Ambac Assurance Corporation. Please keep in mind that the Fund's NAV will fluctuate. During both the Offering Period and the Post Guarantee Period, your investment will not be protected by the guarantee and will be subject to possible loss of principal. See the prospectus for more information on risks associated with the Guarantee and Ambac.

Investment Products: Not FDIC Insured • No Bank Guarantee • May Lose Value

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Smith Barney  
Mutual Funds

SALOMON SMITH BARNEY

A member of citigroup

# Holiday Celebration



Convention Center 2002



Calling all fellow City and DWP employees!  
You're Invited to the:

## Publishing Services Open House

January 22 and 23, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
555 Ramirez Street, Space 200 (Piper Tech)  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

### Tours and demonstrations

- On-line business card ordering
- On-line print ordering
- Our new short-run economical color printing solution
- Canon copier demos!! Using your copier to its fullest.
- Digital proofing, wide format printing, laminating and mounting

**FREE** give-aways and refreshments!!!

# Board of Directors Focuses on Taking Care of Your Money

■ Board election in February determines who watches over your interests, so talk to your rep about your concerns.

Who takes care of the money you pay for your insurance and financial protection programs through The Club?

The seven-member Board of Directors does, that's who.

As caretakers of your money, the board plays a very important role in the Club's financial well-being. With the annual Board elections to take place in February, here's a look at how the Board operates and represents your and other City employees' best interests.

The Board works at the oversight level, with three main functions: setting policy, steering the organization, and evaluating the executives. Among the key financial decisions it makes are assessing the financial status of the Club each year, establishing an appropriate reserve in case of a natural disaster or other emergency, and determining the annual life insurance refund for members.

The Club's Department representatives elect the Board members, who serve terms of seven years maximum. All Board members must be active City employees – at any level.

According to Club Executive Director Danna McDonough, the Board members, who do not get paid for their work with the Club, "have high standards, a commitment to

the organization, and a belief in serving their fellow co-workers."

"Employees should care that the people on the Board are not in it for personal gain, that the Board has a squeaky clean reputation, that the Board keeps the standards of the association above reproach, and that it governs fairly and equitably for every employee in the City," she added. "There are no special interests, and there are no special groups. The Board members always have participated from an altruistic perspective and left their personal agendas and egos somewhere else."

Former Board members agree. "It's about the most open group I belong to," said Bill Costley, a Board member during the 1980s who today serves as a retiree representative, dealing with issues of interest to City retirees. "I have always been very proud of their honesty. That's such a neat thing in this day and age."

Echoed Marilyn McGuire-Holley, the first female and first African-American Board

member when she began her term more than 20 years ago, "I worked with people I can respect. They really are concerned about the welfare of City employees."

*The Board is "an extremely honest group. It works hard to maintain that reputation"*

When McGuire-Holley joined the Board, it marked a major change in the body's operation. Before that time, about 1980, the Board ran the association in a very hands-on manner, with no term limits for members. After hiring McDonough as the association's first professional manager, the Board

set member term limits, and shortly thereafter changed the association's broker of 27 years and insurance company of more than 50 years to get better deals for employees. McDonough also helped ensure the Board became more ethnically and culturally diverse.

Rich Goss, who became a Board member in 1983, noted that early in his term, the Board still displayed the vestiges of an "old boys' club," but changed and helped the association transition to an organization more focused on a true service approach. This change strengthened the association's commitment to City

employees.

"I always believed that City employees deserved services that would augment what the City paid them," Goss said. "I liked being in service to employees. [The association] provided the best opportunity to do that."

Goss added that the Club remains extremely valuable because it does its job so well and "takes one little piece of worry off the table for employees," giving them one less thing to worry about as they focus on the challenges of their jobs and lives.

Employees also don't have to worry about the Board's financial decisions, given its commitment to honesty and openness. In fact, the association never has been the subject of any legitimate complaint or inquiry.

The Board is "an extremely honest group," Costley said. "It works very hard to maintain that reputation."

And both the Board and the Club's leadership and employees continue to work hard to find new and better ways to serve City employees.

"We have some really dynamic and forward-looking people" on the Board today, noted McGuire-Holley. "What impresses me most is that it's a dynamic organization. It adapts to change." ■

## Meet the BOARD OF DIRECTORS

These are the people behind the scenes at the City Employees Club of Los Angeles who represent your interests and needs.

### City Employees Club L.A. Board of Directors



**Robyn Barnes,**  
Personnel Department



**Michael Biagi,**  
Department of Airports



**Dorothy Dillard,**  
General Services Dept.



**Regner Globus,**  
Department of Airports



**Rita Robinson,**  
Dept. of Transportation



**Maria Romasanta,**  
DWP



**Andrew Virzi, Jr.,**  
DWP

### Insurance Services Board of Directors



**Rose Hyland,**  
Retired



**Joanie Mukai,**  
Harbor Department



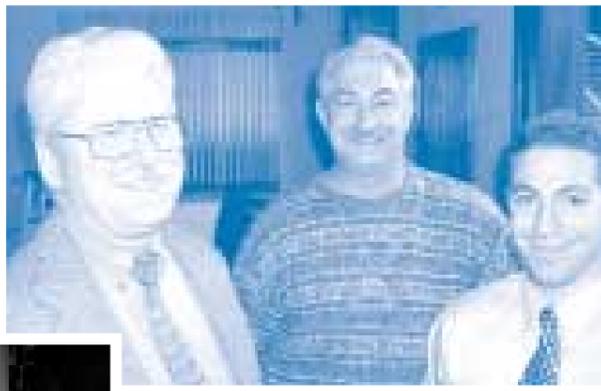
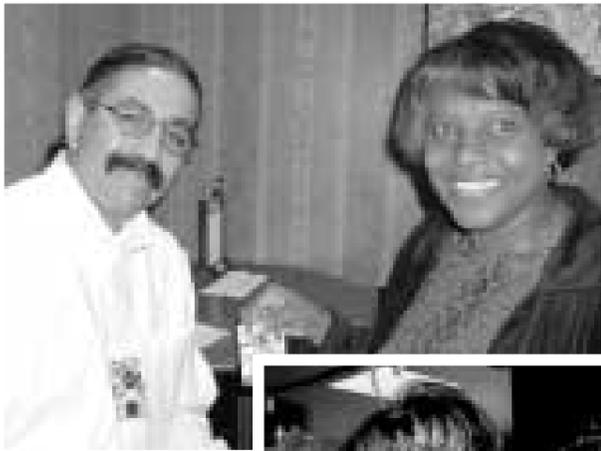
**David Peterson,**  
Police Department



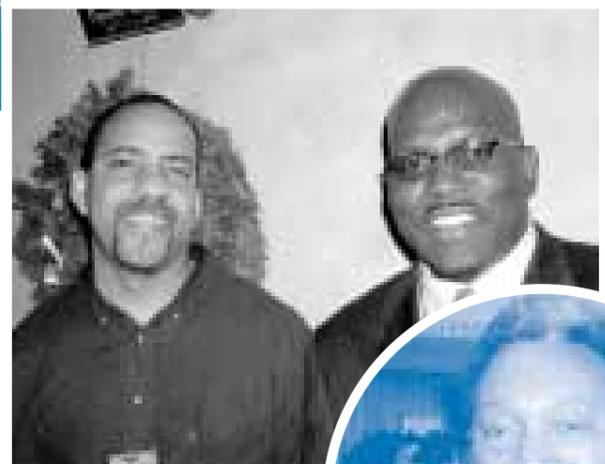
**Rodney Punt,**  
Retired



**Stuart Tom,**  
City of Glendale



# Holiday Celebrations





# ay ration



## General Services Department 2002





# Department of the Month

# Harbor Department



**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DIVISION. LEFT - RIGHT** Pepa Esparrago, Environmental Specialist - 10 yrs; Ginger Nagaoka, Sr. Clerk Typist - 22 Yrs; Betty Main, Sr. Management Analyst I - 23 Yrs; Patsy Nunez, Clerk Typist - 22 Yrs; Yolanda Mativa, Sr. Clerk Typist - 13 Yrs; Ken Ragland, Environmental Scientist - 3 yrs; Andrew Jirik, Environmental Specialist - 2 yrs; Gabriel Silva, Environmental Specialist - 2 yrs



**LEFT - RIGHT** Bill Cheny, Mgmt Analyst II - 26 Yrs; Ruben Bugarin, Sr. Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic - 13 Yrs; Frank Albers, Sr. Mgmt Analyst II - 22 Yrs; Bolden Eckford, Mechanical Repair General Supervisor - 33 Yrs; Fred Sanchez, Construction & Maintenance Supervisor II - 32 Yrs



**LEFT - RIGHT** Alex Carbajal, Professional Student Worker - 4 yrs; Lori Skroce, HR Support Services Supervisor - 13 yrs; Tish Elliot Lorenzana, HR Sr. Management Analyst - 23 yrs; Heather Amescua, HR Personnel Asst. - 1 yr; Sulma Barrera, HR Intern Coordinator - 2 yrs; Lynn Qubain - HR Personnel Records Supervisor - 20 yrs



Rachel Campbell, Public Relations Specialist - Special thanks to her for taking the club photographers all over the harbor



**LEFT - RIGHT** Jon Johnson, Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic - 4 Yrs; Alan Mayse, Equipment Repair Supervisor - 22 yrs



**LEFT - RIGHT** Linda Vigil, Asst. Chief Wharfinger - 31 Years and Eileene Atwood, Wharfinger - 31 Years



**LEFT - RIGHT** Steve Hanger (from London!), Machinist - 21 yrs; Thomas King, Pile Driver Supervisor - 34 yrs

## A Message From the Executive Director, Larry Keller

### Harbor Department: Open to the World and the Community



**Larry Keller, Executive Director, Harbor Department**

The Harbor Department is one of the most vibrant and diverse of all City departments. The beautiful San Pedro Bay coastline is home to museums, City landmarks, shipping operations, cruise ships, marinas, Ports O' Call Village, commercial fishing enterprises and world-class special events.

While acknowledging its place as the number one containerport in the United States, the Port of Los Angeles also recognizes its responsibility to the environment and its neighbors in Wilmington, San Pedro and Harbor City.

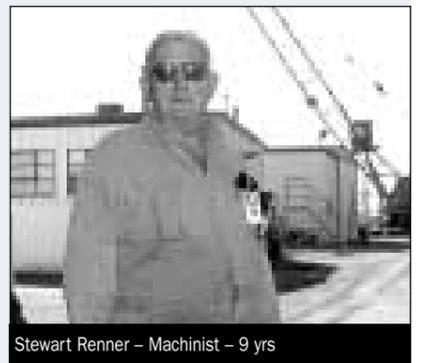
Many innovative environmental programs are under way at the Port, and in response the Port's natural habitat is growing and thriving. Initiatives to clean the Port's water have resulted in a healthy aquatic environment that includes giant kelp beds that can grow as much as three feet in a single day, a shallow water habitat supporting more than 70 fish species, families of sea lions and a successful least tern breeding site.

The Port has implemented many initiatives to clean the air in and around the harbor, including converting more than a third of its vehicle fleet to electric or alternate fuel vehicles, requiring ships to slow down when entering the Port, retrofitting of ships and tugboats and numerous other programs encompassed by the Port of Los Angeles Clean Air Program. The result of these programs is a reduction of

pollution-forming particulate matter and nitrous oxides in the air.

This is an exciting time for the Port and its nearly 700 employees. We are at the threshold of creating a world-class Waterfront Promenade that will bring visitors closer to the water and the shops of historic downtown San Pedro. Our employees recently saw the opening of the world's largest container terminal at the Port's Pier 400, a project they worked hard to complete on time and on budget, and the renovation of the World Cruise Center, the busiest cruise center on the West Coast. Other developments at the Port include the dredging and readying of our channels for the new class of larger container ships and the completion of Phase II at Pier 400.

2003 promises to be an exciting year at the Port of Los Angeles. Take the time to come and see for yourself the dynamic environment here at the Port. You can take a free harbor boat tour during World Trade Week activities in May or sample a fabulous lobster dinner at the Lobster Festival in October. For more information on Port activities, please visit [www.portoflosangeles.org](http://www.portoflosangeles.org).



Stewart Renner - Machinist - 9 yrs



**LEFT - RIGHT** Enoch Samuel, Carpenter - 2 yrs; Albert Robles, Carpenter - 13 yrs



Richard Rand, Security Officer (Construction and Maintenance) - 3 yrs



Christopher Kim - Harbor Security Officer - 1 yr



Chuck Parsons, Machinist - 2 yrs



**LEFT - RIGHT** Darryl Lott, Pile Driver I - 20 yrs; Greg Harris, Pile Driver Worker I - 20 yrs; Otto Valencia, Pile Driver - 2 yrs; Brian Schafer, Pile Driver - 5 yrs; Richard Macias, Pile Driver - 2 yrs



LEFT - RIGHT Ben Small, Heavy Equipment Mechanic - 13 yrs; Melvin Jones, Vocational Gardener - 3 yrs; Melvin McCall, Vocational Worker - 5 yrs



Sgt. Bill Davis - Harbor Security - 3 yrs



John Short, Senior Tugmaster - 13 yrs



LEFT - RIGHT Jesse Palicte, Sr. Clerk Steno - 41 yrs; Joann Esparza, Clerk Typist - 18 yrs; Joanna Rios, Student Engineer - 1 yr; Jessica Bautista, Sr. Clerk Typist - 8 yrs; To Markotic, Sr. Clerk Typist - 23 yrs; Ana Peredia, Student Engineer - 6 yrs



Marty Maher - Sr. Boat Operator - 21 yrs



STANDING FRONT RIGHT - Mike Scurlock, Project Leader Red Car Construction - 9 yrs  
STANDING FRONT LEFT - Al Baca, Mechanical Helper - 16 yrs IN THE RED CAR LEFT TO RIGHT - Joe Soto, Painter II - 30 yrs; Tim Buxton, Carpenter - 2 yrs; Shimon Shaibi, Painter - 34 yrs; Thomas Biernat, Painter - 34 yrs; Gene Volynsky, Painter - 20 yrs; Gary McAngus, Painter - 19 yrs

# Department of the Month



## Hey Harbor Dept: I'm Your Counselor!

Hi Harbor Dept, I'm **Arlene Herrero**, your Club Member Services Counselor. I can help you with insurance products ... advice ... ticket discounts ... and all your Club benefits. It's my job!

I'm down at the Harbor Deptment all the time. Call or e-mail me to schedule an appointment: (800) 464-0452, or [aherrero@cityemployees.com](mailto:aherrero@cityemployees.com)

Arlene Herrero, Member Services Counselor

## Port of Los Angeles: PROFILE

The Port of Los Angeles is a proprietary, self-supporting department of the City of Los Angeles. The Port is under the control of a five-member Board of Harbor Commissioners appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council and is administered by an executive director.

<b>FOUNDED</b>	Harbor Commission established in 1907
<b>BOARD OF HARBOR COMMISSIONERS</b>	Nicholas G. Tonsich, President Elwood Lui, Vice President James E. Acevedo Camilla T. Kocol Thomas H. Warren
<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR</b>	Larry A. Keller
<b>ANNUAL CONTAINER VOLUME (FY 2002)</b>	5.6 million TEUs (20-foot equivalent units)
<b>CARGO TONNAGE (FY 2002)</b>	123.4 MMRT (million metric revenue tons)
<b>CARGO VALUE</b>	\$104.2 billion, calendar year 2001
<b>RANKING BY CONTAINER</b>	Busiest port in the United States
<b>VOLUME</b>	Seventh busiest in the world
<b>RANKING BY CRUISE TRAFFIC</b>	First on the West Coast; fourth busiest nationally 1.09 million passengers (FY 2002)
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	\$289.8 million (FY 2002)
<b>NET INCOME</b>	\$96.9 million (FY 2002)
<b>STATE AND LOCAL TAX REVENUE</b>	\$1.4 billion in Southern California
<b>PORT EMPLOYEES</b>	678
<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>	259,000 jobs in Southern California, or 1 out of every 24 jobs.
<b>WATERFRONT</b>	43 miles
<b>ACREAGE</b>	7,500 acres (3,300 water; 4,200 land)
<b>CARGO TERMINALS</b>	27 major facilities Dry bulk: 3 Liquid bulk: 9 Container: 8 (including Berth 100 under construction) Automobile: 2 Breakbulk: 4 Omni: 1
<b>TOP FIVE CONTAINERIZED IMPORTS (TEUs, calendar year 2001)</b>	Furniture (235,045) Apparel (179,600) Toys (141,023) Computer Equipment (121,883) Footwear (102,588)
<b>TOP FIVE CONTAINERIZED EXPORTS (TEUs, calendar year 2001)</b>	Wastepaper (148,105) Resins and Plastics (71,324) Raw Cottons (45,628) Pet and Animal Feeds (40,679) Mixed Scrap Metal (23,063)
<b>TOP TRADING PARTNERS (calendar year 2001)</b>	China (\$35.7 billion) Japan (\$24.8 billion) Taiwan (\$10.1 billion) Thailand (\$4.3 billion) South Korea (\$3.8 billion)
<b>VESSEL ARRIVALS</b>	2,778 (FY 2002)

# Department of the Month

## A Day in the Life of the Harbor Department



Jesse Cruz – Carpenter – 1 yr

# The Port of Los Angeles: America's Premier Port

**n Harbor Department's Port of Los Angeles delivers a huge economic boost to the region and the nation.**



Captain Jim Morgan – Pilot Captain – 4 yrs



Pauline Hospe – Port Pilot Dispatcher – 16 yrs



LEFT – RIGHT Rose Kinoshita, Graphics Asst – 20 yrs; Adrian López, Graphic Designer – 1 yr; Stephen John, Graphic Designer – 1 yr; Thomas Estrada, Sr. Duplicating Machine Operator – 13 yrs



LEFT – RIGHT Ron Hayes, Carpenter – 3 yrs; Raymond Chin, Carpenter – 1 yr



LEFT – RIGHT Gabriel Gutierrez, Delivery Driver – 18 yrs; Jim MacLellan, Director of Marketing – 10 yrs; Cindy Ishimaru, Marketing Division – 18 yrs; Marla Smalewitz, Property Management – 28 yrs; Carol Carevich Wianeki, Property Management – 18 yrs; Brian Dorney, Assistant Director Property Management – 30 yrs; Marie Gutierrez, Property Management – 4 yrs; Richard Adler, Propety Manager – 8 yrs



LEFT – RIGHT Tim Lee, Systems Programmer – 6 yrs; Deng-Fu Wu, Systems Programmer – 12 yrs; Grace Su, Database Architect – 15 yrs; Dora McClendon Information Center Technician, Sr. Clerk Typist; David Lo, Programmer Analyst – 2 yrs; Kelvin Wei, Project Manager – 7 yrs; Luis Garcia, Information Systems Manager – 17 yrs; Don Ikeda, Programmer Analyst – 1 yr; Charles Cater, Computer Operator – 2 yrs; Jane Broadwell, Manager, Systems and Network Support – 17 yrs; Desmond Huang, System Programmer – 15 yrs; Zeinab Karimi, Database Architect – 11 yrs

As America's premier port and an undisputed center for global trade, the Port of Los Angeles is the key to Southern California's economic dominance. With far-sighted strategic planning, the Port sets the standard for excellence and financial stability, thus ensuring its role in the vital world trade industry.

The Port's stature also carries with it responsibility for leadership in achieving enhancements in security, environmental stewardship, operational efficiency and community outreach. All are high priorities for the Port.

A proprietary department of the City of Los Angeles, the Port is not tax supported. Instead, its revenue is derived from fees from a variety of shipping services. The Port's strong financial performance has been recognized with an AA bond rating, the highest assigned to any U.S. seaport operating without taxpayer support.

A landlord port, the Port of Los Angeles leases its property to customers who operate diverse facilities. With 27 major cargo terminals, including eight container facilities, the Port is well positioned to handle every conceivable type of domestic and international cargo.

More than 95 percent of all goods entering the United States arrives by waterborne transportation, and the Port of Los Angeles provides a major gateway for international goods and services. Some 124 million metric revenue tons, valued at more than \$104 billion, annually pass over the wharves of the Port of Los Angeles.

It is estimated that Port operations impact one out of every 24 jobs in the region, or \$1 out of every \$23 in regional wages.

Cargo volume is expected to dramatically increase in response to the demands of this growing regional marketplace of 16 million people, and the Port is enhancing its facilities to further improve operational efficiency while meeting the needs of customers, shippers, consumers and manufacturers. Currently the number one containerport in the United States, the Port handled 5.6 million TEUs in fiscal year 2002. When Los Angeles is com-

ined with the neighboring Port of Long Beach, the two-port San Pedro Bay complex is number three in the world in container throughput, behind only Hong Kong and Singapore.

Most prominent of the Port's ongoing capital projects is the nearly 600-acre Pier 400 complex, consid-

ered a landfill and facilities development feat of unprecedented dimensions and home of APM Terminals' 484-acre Los Angeles facility.

Recognizing that infrastructure improvements are required for cargo handling efficiency, the Port is a partner in the \$2.4 billion Alameda Corridor, a 20-mile rail expressway completed in April that is hailed as an infrastructure project of national significance. With Pier 400 at its southern end, the Corridor eliminates 200 street-level rail crossings and consolidates a number of rail lines serving the Port while it provides direct access to the downtown railyards and to points east. The Corridor also brings substantial environmental benefits for the communities along its route.

The efficiencies provided by the Alameda Corridor are augmented by some \$200 million of additional infrastructure improvements undertaken by the Port in recent years.

The operation of such a major economic resource also carries with it the responsibility for environmental stewardship. The Port readily accepts that challenge. Already 35 percent of its own fleet is comprised of alternative fuel vehicles and equipment. Working with customers, still other environmentally sound technologies have been tested on tugboats and cargo handling equipment.

The Port is also a partner with its customers and regulatory agencies in implementing an innovative, voluntary vessel speed reduction program that has realized reductions of up to two million tons of NOx emissions per day. Earlier this year, various steamship lines also agreed to join with the Port in an unprecedented commitment to use a lower sulfur diesel fuel or electric power sources at berth to further reduce air emissions. Various environmental programs are in place to successfully attain a no-net increase in air emissions pledge by the Port, part of its broad-based Clean Air Program.

With millions of dollars also committed to safeguard the Port's people, property and cargo, plans are under way to further improve the security of the maritime community through enhanced cargo inspection technology, overseas partnerships to safeguard containerized shipments, added personnel and equipment, etc.

Partnering with customers and various other stakeholders, the Port of Los Angeles leads the way to higher achievements and new standards for maritime operational efficiency and quality of life issues. 🏢

### Wanna be heard?

Tell us how important you think the Port of Los Angeles is to a strong, modern Los Angeles. E-mail your comments to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)





# Retirees NEWS

Write to us at  
[retirees@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:retirees@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Retiree Hotlines

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

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

**City Retirement Counselors:**

- |                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Phil Skarin (818) 784-0130      | • Jack Mathews (310) 762-1942  |
| • Robert Wilkinson (818) 886-1000 | • Helen Salgado (323) 728-4930 |
| • Jerry Bardwell (818) 782-5568   | • Americo Garza (562) 928-2051 |
| • Edward Harding (805) 584-9417   | • Neil Ricci (310) 394-1971    |
| • Harold Danowitz (310) 453-0506  |                                |

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

## City Retirees Continue Their Holiday Party Tradition in Style

The Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI) continued its decades-old tradition of celebrating the holidays with a party Thursday, Dec. 12. The party, including the swearing in of new officers, the singing of Christmas carols and a visit from Santa Claus himself, held court in the John Ferraro City Council Chambers.

Fourth District Councilman Tom LaBonge had the honor of swearing in the new officers. They were: Neil Ricci, health director; Jerry Bardwell, treasurer; Jack Mathews, senior adviser; Dave Wilkins, charter director; Helen Salgado, membership chairperson; and Ken Spiker, second vice president.



Fourth District Councilman Tom LaBonge welcomes the revelers.



Jack Mathews recognizes exemplary volunteers.



Santa (sometimes known as Ken Spiker) makes an appearance.



Pianist Vince Morton entertained the crowd.



Terri Alatorre, of the Mayor's office, welcomes the partiers.



Singer Karen Senia led the carol-singing.



Fourth District Councilman Tom LaBonge and RLACEI President Ed Harding swear in new officers (not in order in photograph) Neil Ricci, Jerry Bardwell, Jack Mathews, Dave Wilkins and Helen Salgado. New officer Ken Spiker was busy playing Santa.

## For Retirees

By Phil Skarin  
RLACEI Publicity Chair

## New Years Brings Fears Of Changes To Benefits

Ed Harding, the president of Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI), joins with members of the RLACEI Executive Board in wishing a happy new year to all retirees and their families. Our organization again will be working hard to protect the benefits you currently enjoy and to secure new ones. Your officers who were reelected at the annual meeting appreciate the confidence you have showed in them.

Ken Spiker, our legislative chairman, reports that two recent *Los Angeles Times* articles have raised major concerns to some of our retirees and have created a flood of mail and telephone calls expressing their fear of losing some of our health benefits.

"... And with fewer employers subsidizing health coverage for their retirees." "For current retirees, that is likely to mean reduced benefits and higher insurance premiums, deductibles and co-payments." "Employer-subsidized health care coverage for retirees is not collapsing, but is eroding." (All from the *Los Angeles Times*, Dec. 6, 2002.)

"State budget cuts in the state-funded Med-Cal program would cause cuts in current benefits and have a direct adverse financial impact upon our retirees receiving \$1,000 or \$1,500 per month and thus qualifying for Med-Cal." (*Los Angeles Times*, Dec. 7, 2002.)

Spiker reports that he knows of no efforts on the part of our City officials to reduce or eliminate any of our current health benefits or subsidies. However, he is sure that premiums will continue to increase and any additional benefits will be hard to obtain. He will continue to submit our annual list of much-needed changes for new benefits and hope his arguments for approval are successful.



Ed Harding, RLACEI President

## News Of Retirees

- Ed Harding was re-elected as president of the Royal High School Baseball Boosters Club.
- Sidney and Gwen Cheshire celebrated their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary ... wow!
- Ken Nichols will be driving a float in the New Year's Rose Parade for the 32nd year, assisted by Sam Calderwood (his 17<sup>th</sup> time). Ken's hobby is taking pictures of lighthouses throughout the United States.

- Dr. Renaud and Ellen Hatter Sr. celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary July 13. Then, in August, he turned 92. Their secret: "Never go to bed angry with each other."
- One of the hardest workers in the anti-secession campaign was Lou Robins. He even put a "No on Secession" sign in my front yard.

- The former Los Angeles City Employees Association (LACEA) has changed its name to the City Employees Club of Los Angeles (The Club). It will continue to provide group insurance services, but it will now distribute a new newspaper, *Alive!* All active or retired City and DWP employees are eligible to become members. To join, call (800) 464-0452. Dues are \$4 per month for active employees, or \$2 per month for retirees. For more info, go to [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)

### COMING EVENTS:

April 18 – Membership meeting  
June 3 – Golf Classic

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

If you change your address, please notify Helen Salgado, membership chair, at 5423 Dewar St., Los Angeles, CA 90022. Phone: (323) 728-4930.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

*Blessed are those who have dreams, and are willing to pay the price to make their dreams come true.*

## HAHN APPOINTS NEW GM OF DEPARTMENT OF AGING

Mayor Jim Hahn appointed Laura Trejo as general manager to head the Los Angeles Department of Aging. Trejo will be responsible for leading Mayor Hahn's plans to improve and expand the City's programs for the elderly.

"Laura Trejo has the leadership, managerial abilities, and enthusiasm to successfully lead the Department of Aging," Hahn said. "She shares my commitment to keeping our residents safe, healthy and enthusiastic by providing them vibrant and innovative programs."

Since 1985, Trejo has served as the Clinical District Chief for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, Countywide Older Adult Programs. She holds a Master's degree in gerontology, a Master's degree in public administration, a graduate certificate in longterm care administration, and a Bachelor's of art degree in psychology, all from the University of Southern California.

"Ms. Trejo is also an avid writer on elderly issues, she has published numerous articles on the challenges of seniors, and served as a panel expert consultant, trainer and technical adviser on the aged for numerous agencies across the country and around the world," Hahn said. "With her background and experience, I am confident that she possesses the leadership, managerial ability and enthusiasm to successfully lead the Department of Aging." ■

## MAYOR HAHN UNVEILS VISION FOR THE HARBOR

Mayor Jim Hahn unveiled his vision for the Port and its surrounding communities during his first State of the Harbor address by outlining his commitment to port related projects, port security and the protection of the environment as he oversees the world's premier port.

Mayor Hahn, a San Pedro resident, noted in his speech that the port of Los Angeles is one of the city's great assets and emphasized that it should also be an asset to the communities around the port, instead of a burden.

"As we begin to implement our vision for the 21st century, it is not enough to say that Los Angeles is the nation's busiest port. We can no longer afford to simply look at Port operations and expansion from an economic perspective. Rather, the port must also be a good neighbor," said Mayor Hahn.

Mayor Hahn stated that he knows firsthand how the Port affects the Harbor community day in and day out. "Since I became Mayor, I understood that to protect our coveted position as one of the world's premier ports, we must not only build on the economic success of the port, but must also focus on building a meaningful partnership between the Port and the adjacent communities," he said. "I asked the Port to make improved community relations a top priority. As a result, our goal is to forge a new partnership with the community and work with them to seek solutions to the challenges facing the Harbor area." ■

## Newsbriefs

## Around the City

## ZINE MOTION ASKS CITY FOR REPORT ON CITY LEASED BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Councilmen Dennis P. Zine and Tom LaBonge co-presented a motion seconded by Councilman Mark Ridley Thomas, asking the Los Angeles City Council to instruct the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), with the cooperation of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), to create a report detailing the location, cost and use for all facilities leased by the City of Los Angeles, from any source, for use by all City Departments, including the Department of Water and Power, the Port of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles World Airports. It was further moved that the report be presented to the Information Technology and General Services Committee within 30 days.

City leases on privately owned buildings cost the taxpayers tens of millions of dollars each year and often necessitate the fragmentation of the City work force. Councilmen Zine, LaBonge, and Ridley Thomas, feel that in order for the government to become more responsive and efficient, costs must be controlled and public service improved. ■

## COUNCILMAN ZINE TOOK TO THE ROAD TO HIGHLIGHT PEDESTRIAN SAFETY NOV. 27

Each year in Los Angeles, more than 300 pedestrians are seriously injured or killed in crosswalk related accidents. Between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31, 2001, 14 pedestrians lost their lives in the San Fernando Valley alone.

In the interest of Public Safety during the "Holiday Rush," Councilman Dennis P. Zine took a proactive approach to make drivers aware of "smart" crosswalks, pedestrian rights of way, and the traffic laws that protect them. Supported by the Motor Officers of LAPD's Valley Traffic Division, the Department of Transportation, and his son, Officer Chris Zine, the Councilman has a big surprise in store for motorists driving along Sherman Way at Eton in Canoga Park Nov. 27.

LAPD Pacific Division Officer Chris Zine, dressed appropriately for the Thanksgiving Holiday in a Turkey costume and utilizing the "Smart" crosswalk, walked back and forth across the street. Motorists who failed to stop for him were cited.

There are 10 other "smart" crosswalk locations throughout Los Angeles. Using a sensor-activated warning beacon, and at a cost of \$15,000 to \$25,000 each, "smart" crosswalks are far more economical than a standard traffic light which can cost as much as \$100,000. Since their inception, a 14 percent improvement in drivers yielding to pedestrians has been shown. ■

## PORT OF L.A. RESEARCHES OPTIONS FOR USING LESS IMPOSING CRANES

In response to community and aesthetics concerns, the Port of Los Angeles is looking into ways to make its gantry cranes less imposing.

The Port is considering incorporation of Liebherr collapsible cranes. The gantry of the Liebherr cranes can be lowered to the ground when not in use. Currently, the Liebherr cranes are more commonly used for vessels carrying 1200 to 1500 TEUs, a smaller generation vessel than typically calls in Los Angeles.

"This is positive step in the process of finding a viable balance between operational needs of Port clients and the desire of the community for less prominent crane structures," said Nicholas Tonsich, President of Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners.

In January 2003, Commissioner Thomas Warren and Al Fierstine, Port of Los Angeles director of business development, will travel to Miami to view Liebherr cranes in operation. The two Port officials will determine the feasibility of the Liebherr cranes for Los Angeles' heavy volume use on larger container vessels, considering productivity requirements and the crane manufacturer's ability to meet the current Los Angeles quality and structural standards. If feasible, the Port will then recommend use of the Liebherr crane to its major global customers. Warren, a member of ILWU Local 63, has extensive crane and operational experience.

The Port has also initiated discussions with Zhen Hua Port Machinery Company (ZPMC), the largest crane manufacturer in the world, and builder of the cranes for the proposed China Shipping Terminal in the Port of Los Angeles. ZPMC has indicated that a construction modification of the gantry cranes on this facility may be possible to allow the crane arms to retract. Currently, the arms are stored in a semi-upright, 45-degree angle.

As proposed, the new cranes would have retractable booms parallel to the ground and would retract back over the wharf when not in use. The resultant profile would be 150 to 180 feet in height rather than 300 feet for a fully extended, upright crane arm. ■

## VALLEY COMMUNITY WIPES OUT AREA BLIGHT BY ERASING GRAFFITI

Fed up with neighborhood blight, Councilmember Wendy Greuel and the Los Angeles Police Department mobilized nearly 200 community volunteers to eradicate blight-causing graffiti at over 30 locations from Sherman Oaks to Sunland-Tujunga.

"Graffiti diminishes the quality-of-life in our neighborhoods and is a medium for gangware," Greuel said. "Gang-bangers will not own our communities. Today, with the help of the LAPD, we are taking back our streets."

Volunteers gathered at Valley Park Plaza in North Hollywood before breaking into teams of 10 to wipe out graffiti across the East Valley. City crews accompanied the volunteers to tag abandoned vehicles and remove bulky items and other junk at or around the graffiti-laden sites.

Community-based nonprofit organizations, including the East Valley's Pacoima Graffiti Busters, provided supplies and assisted the volunteers in the paint-out efforts. Deputy Police Chief Ronald Bergmann, architect of a widely praised Valley-based anti-gang program, joined the community in painting out North Hollywood graffiti.

"Graffiti leads to crime and blight," Bergmann said. "We all have to work together and keep up our efforts to maintain clean and safe neighborhoods."

In addition to removing graffiti, Operation Paint-Out was intended to heighten awareness of the City's graffiti removal programs. Residents are encouraged to report graffiti at (800) 611-CITY. City crews or community-based organizations will remove reported graffiti within 24 hours in most cases. ■

**New!**

*from the Club!*



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**FREE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR CLUB MEMBERS**

**MEMBERS: to place your free classified ad** send us your information (25 total words maximum) including your name, item, description, price, phone number or e-mail address.

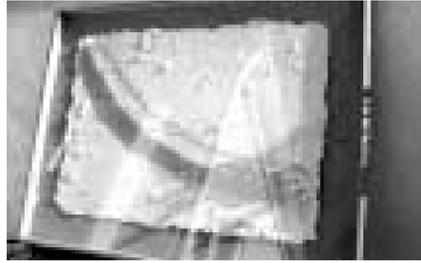
You can fax to (213) 620-0598 or email to [classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com).

We'll run your ad in the next available issue. Your ad may be edited for length or appropriateness.

Thanks and happy selling!

**Art**

**Original Southwest artwork** featuring an abstract on peach, white, and beige paper mache. \$50. [Seascape00@juno.com](mailto:Seascape00@juno.com).



**7" resin griffin, Greek mythological statue.** \$5. (310) 832-0511

**Original unframed DeGrazio painting,** 2 feet by 3 feet. (310) 832-0511

**Handmade Indian bowl.** \$15. (310) 832-0511

**Large oil still life,** suitable for traditional or antique furnishings. Best mounted over mantel, couch or dining room table. \$100. [Seascape00@juno.com](mailto:Seascape00@juno.com).

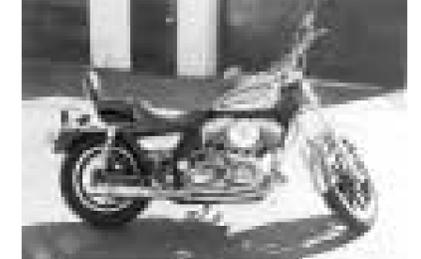


**Four 8 x 10 original Mexican paintings** on bark. \$20 each. (310) 832-0511

**Slightly used 10" Asian meditation rock waterfall.** \$30. Comes complete, including pump and rocks. Only used once! (310) 832-0511

**Autos / Motorcycles**

**Harley-Davidson Motorcycle:** Limited Edition 1986 FXR Commemorative **Statue of Liberty Edition.** Maintained by H.D. mechanics, beautiful bike. Near perfect example of this bike. \$10,000. (1/2 down, 1/2 2 weeks later. Cathy (818) 989-2230



**2002 Harley Davidson Dyna Super Glide 2002 bike,** still under original warranty, plus an extended three-year warranty. Screaming Eagle pipes, tons of extra chrome, too much to list here. Drag bars, will include original handle bars. Original seat, plus two extra seats. \$16,400. Edward Hartz, (818) 920-7024.

**1988 Ford Econoline E-150 van.** 127,000 miles, V8 engine. Very clean. Red-E-Camp van. Like new, runs good. 4 Captains chairs, high ceiling, bench/bed, AM/FM cassette, A/C, TV, VCR, drink caddy, ice chest, twin gas tanks. \$5,000 or best offer. (818) 361-3444.

**2000 blue Harley Davidson Sportster.** Larger-sized engine, less than 5,000 miles. Extra chrome, way too much to list. \$8,900. Cheryl Power: (818) 830-0747



**Car Parts** - Misc Rambler parts from 1958 to 1961. All sorts of accessories from door handles and grills to tail light lenses. Call (818) 885-8977.

**DVDs**

**DVDs:** Willing to swap/trade (Gladiator, Pearl Harbor, The Rock plus many more). [bobpearce@earthlink.net](mailto:bobpearce@earthlink.net)

**Bicycles**

**Cannondale mountain bike,** model Jeckell 3000; 2002 model. \$2,000 (originally \$3,800). Call Larry Romasanta: (818) 266-1583

**Bicycle pannier.** Eclipse, red. For front handlebars. \$10. (818) 832-5522

**Books**

**Self-improvement collection,** \$2 each. [bobpearce@earthlink.net](mailto:bobpearce@earthlink.net)

**First edition of Sports Illustrated.** Perfect condition, still in large mailing envelope. Make offer. [superhawks@msn.com](mailto:superhawks@msn.com)

**Furniture**

**Pine Queen Bedroom set** (5 piece) almost new \$675. Call (213) 367-1667

**Buffet Hutch,** 52 X 80, wood \$575. Call (213) 367-1667



**Dining table,** wood, with six chairs. Good condition. \$350. Call (213) 367-1667



**19th century Dutch glass-doored cabinet** (original rolled glass). Excellent condition. \$235. Call or e-mail Rod: (310) 458-2019, [rod Ruth@adelphia.net](mailto:rod Ruth@adelphia.net)

**Industrial desk:** 60" length, 33" width, 33" high. \$15. [bobpearce@earthlink.net](mailto:bobpearce@earthlink.net)

**Household Items**

**Princess House Crystal 50% off,** lots and lots of items. Call (213) 367-1667

**Two RevoStyler Hair Straightener Kits.** Never used. Comes with instructional video and 3-year warranty. Best offer. E-mail: [jazzmusic12@aol.com](mailto:jazzmusic12@aol.com)

**Shoes - Salvatore Ferragamo shoes** 7-1/2C - \$10.00@ Call Gina 818/265-5940 or PCS# 818/395-3552.

**Jacket** - NEW w/ tags gorgeous jacket by Kasper A.S.L. Petites in size 8p. Black, fully lined, with luxurious ivory lapels and cuffs! \$15.00. Winning buyer pays \$6 shipping/handling. Send questions to: [msarlene76@hotmail.com](mailto:msarlene76@hotmail.com)

**1970s-era cassette tapes.** (310) 832-0511

**Assorted carry-on travel bags.** In excellent condition. Best offer. (310) 832-0511

**Five-piece set of aluminum cookware.** Brand-new, never-been-used. \$25 E-mail: [seascape00@juno.com](mailto:seascape00@juno.com)

**Mechanic's roller.** \$15 or best offer. E-mail: [seascape00@juno.com](mailto:seascape00@juno.com)

**Fitted picnic basket.** hardly-used. \$10 or best offer. E-mail: [seascape00@juno.com](mailto:seascape00@juno.com)

**JuiceMan juicer.** Practically new. \$15. [superhawks@msn.com](mailto:superhawks@msn.com)

**Blender** - needs glass - \$5. [superhawks@msn.com](mailto:superhawks@msn.com)

**Rowing machine.** One of the original "Concept Iis" — needs a little cosmetic work but is ready to use. \$100 firm. (818) 832-5522

**Kelty Kids Pack.** Excellent condition. Like new - with sunshade. \$65 firm. Call (818) 832-5522

**Miscellaneous**

**Brand New watch.** Never Worn. SEIKO Kinetic Auto Relay Men's Quartz Watch, stainless steel with a 2-Tone look. No batteries needed, ever! Auto Relay stores the time in memory up to 4 years and when you charge the watch by shaking it, the hands will automatically adjust to the current time. Seiko box, papers and Seiko 3-year warranty card. Bought it a few weeks ago for \$450 but will sell for \$300. Call 213-760-4521



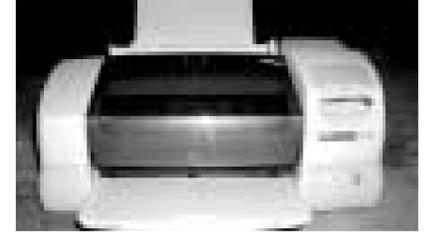
**482 Pac Bell Computer with HP Color Printer,** loaded with software \$450. Call (213) 367-1667

**Panasonic VHS Video Camera with Case** in very good condition \$275. Call (213) 367-1667

**Jazzy Power wheel chair.** Model 1100. 6 wheels, seat fully reclines, very little use. \$2,000 obo. (818) 361-3444.

**2 Nokia 5160 phones.** \$25 each, firm. Call (805) 532-1609

**Printer.** Epson 875, photo realistic, 6 ink colors. USB connection and a memory stick slot. \$30 firm. Call (818) 832-5522.



**Travel / Timeshare**

**Time Share: Spain** - Mallorca - 3 Bedroom, Fireplace, Kitchen, Microwave, Washer/Dryer. Playa Paraiso is set on the sea front, at the edge of the town, overlooking the beautiful sweeping bay of Cala Millor. Available for \$825 per week. For more information call Martha at (213) 367-1667.



**Timeshare - Desert Springs, Calif.** Call Olivia: (323) 724-9535

**Turnaround trips** to Ensenada, Rosarito Beach, Laughlin, Las Vegas. Three-day trips to San Francisco/ Yosemite, Grand Canyon/Las Vegas ... below cost! Call Gina Caguiat (818) 265-5940 after 7 p.m.

**Time Share: Hawaii** - Oahu. 1 Bedroom, Air Conditioning, Kitchen, Microwave. Located 100 yards from Waikiki Beach. The resort also features a full fitness center with a coed Jacuzzi and on-call masseuse. \$765 per week or buy for \$3,400. Call Martha for more information (213) 367-1667.



**Time Share: Cancun** - Piramides Cancun Beach Resort. \$798 a week or buy for \$3,600. 1 Bedroom. For more information call Martha at (213) 367-1667.



**Collectibles Wanted**

**Wanted: Your childhood Barbie dolls and clothes.** I collect dolls from 1959 through 1966. I pay top dollar! I will buy one to 1,000 dolls. Clothing, structures, cases, yes, I will buy them, too. Anything vintage Barbie! Call Cheryl: (818) 771-4835

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For specific locations and discount offers, go to: [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com) and click on Club Discounts.

# Ready to Break Resolutions? Here Comes the Super Bowl!

by Robert Larios

## Happy New Year!

Now that we finished the race to upset our stomachs by overindulging ourselves with holiday meals like turkeys, honey-baked hams, and pies beyond your stomach's content, it's time to break those New Year resolutions and get ready for the Super Bowl feast.

For this issue we have our first recipe submitted by Club member Mike Louie. I tried his recipe and let me tell you, King Louie's Chunky Guacamole is a necessary staple as a pre-game and post-game appetizer. Don't forget to complement the guacamole with your favorite tortilla chips.

Most of us have chewed on great spicy chicken

wings, but I bet few of you have tasted chicken wings of a different flavor. How about adding plate of Parmesan-Mustard Crusted Chicken Wings next to those famous spicy BBQ chicken wings? Make sure you have your beverage to wash down these flavorful wings.

Remember to keep your cutting board and hands clean when preparing anything with poultry products because the only upset you want to tolerate is the one in the Super Bowl and not in the stomach of those watching the game.

Thank you to Mike Louie for his submission of his recipe. Again, if you have a recipe you would like us to publish, you may fax at (213) 620-0398, or you may e-mail it to the address below.

Happy cooking! 🍴



### King Louie's Chunky Guacamole

Submitted by Club member Mike Louie

#### INGREDIENTS

- (5) radishes
- (1) small white or sweet onion
- (2) fresh jalapeño chiles
- (1/2) cup packed fresh cilantro sprigs
- (4) firm-ripe California avocados
- (4) tablespoons fresh lime juice, or to taste
- (1/2) teaspoon salt
- Accompaniment: tortilla chips

#### DIRECTIONS

- Cut outside from radishes in 1/4-inch-thick slices and discard white insides. Cut radish and onion into 1/4-inch dice. Wearing rubber gloves, seed jalapeños if desired and finely chop. Chop cilantro.
- Halve and pit avocados. Scoop flesh into a bowl and coarsely mash with back of a fork. Stir in radish, onion, chiles, cilantro, lime juice and salt.
- Serve guacamole with tortilla chips.

Makes about 3-1/2 cups



### Parmesan-Mustard-Crusted Chicken Wings

#### INGREDIENTS

- (1) stick (1/2 cup) unsalted butter
- (2) tablespoons Dijon-style mustard
- (1) tablespoon of your favorite hot sauce
- (1) cup dried bread crumbs
- (1/2) cup of dried parsley
- (1/2) cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- Salt and Pepper to taste
- (1) teaspoon ground cumin
- (20) chicken wings, wing tips cut off and discarded and the wings halved at the joint

#### DIRECTIONS

- In a shallow dish, whisk together butter, mustard and hot sauce. In another shallow dish, combine well bread crumbs, parsley, Parmesan, cumin, and salt and black pepper to taste. Dip the chicken wings, a few at a time, in the butter mixture, letting the excess drip off. Coat them with the crumb mixture, and arrange them without touching in a greased shallow baking pan. Bake the chicken wings in the lower third of a preheated 425°F. oven for 30 minutes. (If extra-crisp chicken wings are desired, turn the wings after 20 minutes.)

Makes 6 servings



## CLAIMS UPDATE

*Happy New Year  
to Everyone!*



### Wanna be heard?

Ask Cecilia a question, or send a general comment to the editor:  
claims@cityemployeesclub.com

For questions about claims, contact  
**Cecilia Camacho**, Claims Administrator  
at (213) 620-0388

### Claims Paid Out through November 2002\*

Type of Insurance	2002		2001	
	Number of Claims	Year-to-Date	Number of Claims	Year-to-Date
Life insurance	70	\$2,658,950	74	\$2,802,168
Disability Insurance	98	\$827,398	85	\$880,287
Long Term Care Insurance	5	\$25,450	3	\$21,033
Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance	3	\$63,655	18	\$596,336
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>\$3,575,454</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>\$4,299,825</b>

\* May not include claims in process, or to be verified.

## A D V E R T I S E M E N T

### Attention Homeowners! Want Debt Relief?

■ Local company offers free report that reveals how this time next month you could have a "SOLD" HOUSE

LOS ANGELES — Do you want to sell your home quickly and still get a fair price?

Maybe your house is vacant and in need of repairs? Are you in foreclosure or behind on payments? Are you facing a divorce, bad tenants in your rental, liens, or being transferred? These are common problems.

Here's the perfect solution.

A local company, California Home Buyers, will buy your house in any condition, price range, or area, from people in situations like these.

They have detailed it all for you in their eye-opening FREE Special Report titled *How To Sell Your House In 7 Days*.

This report reveals how to sell your home quickly, allowing you to move on

with your life, how you can get immediate relief from your mortgage payments, and much much more.

Copies of their free report are available and waiting for you right now.

No Realtor will give you this information! It reveals information that Realtors do not want you to know.

Since they are buyers, not Realtors, you will not pay real estate commissions or fees.

They buy 5-10 houses per month and are always looking to buy more. You'll get a quick sale, with no hassles, allowing you to move on.

To order your FREE copy of their report, call them Toll Free Now at 888-318-1781 for a free recorded message or just visit them at [www.IwillBuy.info](http://www.IwillBuy.info)

### Wanna be heard?

Send your recipes in, or let us know how you fared with our recipes! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



# Life Insurance, Long Term Disability Usually Require Club Membership

■ Here are some answers to many commonly asked questions. And don't hesitate to send me your questions or comments.



Counselor's Corner

## Address and Telephone Number Changes

Once I notify the City of LA of a change of address, the City Employees Club gets my updated information, right?

**Answer:** No. You will need to contact the City Employees Club as well so that we may update your records here.

I have not received my City Employees Club newspaper or other correspondences from the City Employees Club of LA in months. What's the matter?

**Answer:** It is very likely that we have an old address, and the post office is unable to forward our mail to you. It is very important that you call us in the event that you update your mailing address and telephone number with us immediately.

Who and where do I call at the City Employees Club to make these changes?

**Answer:** You may call our office at (800) 464-0452, and ask for me. As you can see by the top of my column, my name is Howard Pompel.

## Club Membership

I am a new city employee and I want to apply for life insurance with The Club. Is it true that only members can get the Club's life insurance?

**Answer:** This is true. In fact, any city employee who has no benefits with the City Employees Club but wants life insurance (or any other insurance benefit) must also apply for Club membership.

How much does the club membership cost?

**Answer:** It costs only \$4 a month for active city employees and \$2 a month for retired city employees.

Is there an extra form to sign up for Club membership?

**Answer:** Most of our applications can be used for both Club membership and insurance benefits. If you want to be Club member without purchasing insurance, you may use any application that has the Club membership section. If you want just longterm disability insurance, you must apply for Club membership as well.

I know some people at work that don't pay for Club membership. How is that possible?

**Answer:** There are members who have been with us prior to October 6, 2002, (the official day we became the City Employees Club of Los Angeles) and who have a six-month free membership trial period. Afterward, if they decide to keep the membership, they will pay only \$4 a month as an active city employee or \$2 a month as a retired employee for Club membership.

I also know one person at work who isn't paying for Club membership but has the insurance.

**Answer:** There is a very small group of people who decided to cancel their membership. They have decided to no longer get the monthly *Alive!* newspaper, no longer have access to putting their ads in the paper for free, no longer get 20 percent off of at restaurants and other merchant locations, no longer know about City employee events, and no longer buy discount entertainment tickets. However, they still have insurance with the City Employees Club of Los Angeles. We think they're missing out on a lot of great things for a very small cost, but we respect their choice.

*I sincerely hope you had a great New Year's celebration, and that 2003 is all that you want it to be.*

**Wanna be heard?** Do you have a question about your benefits? Or do you have just a comment about this column? Let us know! [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Member Benefits:

### Discount Tickets

- TICKET EXPRESS: Buy tickets by Phone, Mail, or Website
- 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

### Group Rated Insurance Products

- Term Life Insurance
- Long Term Disability
- Short Term Disability Insurance
- Long Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance
- Critical Care Insurance
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance

### Plus...

- The Famous "Refund Check"
- Prepaid Legal Insurance
- Pet Insurance

### More Benefits

- Free Notary Service
- Scholarships
- Employee-of-the-Year Award

**Club Card**  
Show your card and save money at hundreds of businesses in L.A. and throughout the country.

## 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.



Danna McDonough, President & CEO



Brian G. Trent, Chief Financial Officer



John Hawkins, Chief Operations Officer



Summy Lam, Information Technology Coordinator



Mike Louie, Information Technology Coordinator



Cecelia Camacho, Claims Administrator



Navin Cotton, Claims Coordinator



Alan Bound, Information Technology Programmer



Leigh Thompson, Accounting



Trinh Pham, Accountant



Howard Pompel, Member Services Counselor



Lupe Medina, Administrative Services Representative



Ling Kaufman, Accounting Supervisor



Robert Larios, Sales Operations Manager

## Need help? Find your Counselor

When contacting the Club, ask for the counselor that handles your department.



Angel Gomez, Member Services Counselor

DWP Water Services  
DWP Energy Services  
Recreation and Parks, Dept. of Street Services, Bureau of Transportation, Dept. of



Arlene Herrero, Member Services Counselor

Building & Safety, Department of City Administrative Officer  
DWP Integrated Support Services  
Engineering, Bureau of General Services, Department of Harbor Department  
Information Technology Agency  
Police Department



Beverly Haro, Member Services Counselor

Aging, Dept. of Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the City Attorney  
Community Development Dept.  
Cultural Affairs, Dept. of DWP Admin.  
DWP Financial Services Executive  
DWP Marketing & Customer Service  
El Pueblo De Los Angeles  
Employee Relations Board  
Environmental Affairs, Dept. of Fire Department  
Housing Authority of the City of LA  
Library Department  
Office of Administrative & Research Svcs.  
Pensions, Dept. of Fire & Police  
Personnel Department  
Planning, City  
Quality and Productivity Commission  
Zoo Department, Los Angeles



Anthony McDaniel, Member Services Counselor

Accounting, Bureau of [Formerly] Airports, LA World  
Animal Regulation, Dept. of City Clerk  
Coliseum, LA Memorial  
Community Redevelopment Agency  
Contract Administration, Bureau of Controller, Office of the Convention Center, Los Angeles  
Council District #1-15  
Department on Disability  
Finance, Office of Housing Dept.  
Management/Employee Services, Mayor, Office of the Neighborhood Empowerment, Dept. of Retirement System, City Employees' Sanitation, Bureau of Street Lighting, Bureau of



Questions? We're here to help. (800)464-0452  
Call between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.