



# Alive!



SERVING OVER  
18,000 CITY AND  
DWP EMPLOYEES

## Club Store to Move Closer to Where You Work

■ **BIG CLUB NEWS:**  
The Club Store and other services are moving within walking distance of thousands who work downtown.

THE CLUB — In its boldest customer service move yet, the Club is moving its Store and other people-to-people services to a better location downtown.

The new Club Store and satellite offices will be at 120 W. Second St., between Spring and Main Streets, near the LAPD's new Parker Center and Transportation's headquarters in the Caltrans Building. And for perhaps thousands of other Club Members who work downtown, the new location will be an easy walk.

"For more than 80 years, the Club has been there for you, our Members," said John Hawkins, Club CEO. "And now, we're even more *there!*"

"Our Members asked for better access, and we gave you a great Website, which is going gang-busters," he continued. "That same customer service continues with this new space. You're gonna love it!"

"What better way to celebrate the lives of City Employees, than to make it easier for you to get the things you need – insurance, tickets and merchandise?" said Navin Cotton, the Club's Ticket Guy.

**The Club Store is expected to move by May 1.**  
Many more details inside on page 29.

## Alvin Blain: From Garage to General Manager to Retiree

■ **General Services General Manager Alvin Blain retires after 35 of City service.**



GENERAL SERVICES — The one-time garage attendant is retiring as General Manager.

Alvin Blain, the General Manager, General Services, and longtime Club Member, retired April 1 after 35 years of City service. An official retirement party was held in his honor March 25.

Alvin Blain, General Services General Manager

Inside this month's issue: His accomplishments, photos of his career, and his thoughts as he retires.

"The real success of my time here was the journey, the path, the friends, the 35 years," he says. "I'm just lucky that people allowed me to be a part of their success."

See the story on page 42.



Last year, *Alive!* showed you where the City's water came from. Now, here's ...

## Where the

# Water Goes

*Alive!* visits the world-class Hyperion Treatment Plant.

SEE PAGES 14-19.

From left: Steven Fan, Plant Manager, and Charles Turhollow, Division Manager, at the Hyperion Treatment Plant in Playa del Rey.



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

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It's almost

# Mother's Day

Tell mom you love her ... in *Alive!*  
Details, page 13.

# Alive!

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John Hawkins and Robert Larios, *MANAGING EDITORS*  
 John Burnes, *EDITOR*  
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  - Airports
- David Muraoka, *Vice Chairperson*
  - LAPD
- Robyn L. Barnes, *Secretary/Treasurer*
  - Fire and Police Pensions
- Regner Globus
  - Property Manager, Port of Los Angeles
- Michael B. Leighton
  - Director of Publishing Services, Gen. Services
- Rita Robinson
  - General Manger, Dept. of Transportation

**Insurance Services Board**

- Joannie Mukai
  - Harbor Department, Retired
- Rose Hyland
  - Office of the Controller, Retired
- Andrew Virzi, Jr.
  - Assistant Controller, DWP
- Marilyn McGuire-Holley
  - Public Works: Bureau of Sanitation, Retired

**Numbers YOU CAN USE**

City Employees Club of Los Angeles	(800) 464-0452	DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1712
City Employees Club of Los Angeles FAX	(213) 620-0398	Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
City Employees Deferred Compensation	(213) 978-1636	Fire and Police Pension System	(213) 978-4545
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-1655	Local 721	(213) 482-6660
City Employees Retirement System	(213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328	L.A. City Bureau of Sanitation Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	(800) 773-2489
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480	Los Angeles Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
City Personnel Office	(213) 847-9240	Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340	Los Angeles Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593	Los Angeles Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
DWP Credit Union	(213) 580-1690 or (800) 300-9728	Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
DWP Employees Assn.	(213) 367-3146	Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association	(888) 288-5073
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DWP Information	(213) 367-4211	Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
DWP Intake Magazine	(213) 367-1361	Whistleblower/Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
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**Vehicle Savings You Can Really Bring Home.**  
**Rates From: 5.25%**

**Dealer Sales April 11 to 27**

- Incredibly low prices on new & used vehicles
- Rebates on select new models
- SUPER LOW monthly payments

Visit [www.lafcu.org](http://www.lafcu.org) for details

# California Dreamin'

It's the club for the summertime blues! Mix up one part garden room, one part family, and one part fun and you've got the backyard of your dreams!

WPCCU has over 20 years of experience in helping homeowners with all kinds of needs. And now you can get a \$1000 rebate on your new pool or hot tub. Call us today for more details.

Put your pool, fence, driveway and walking surfaces. Take your home improvement business to the next level with WPCCU (through May 31) and you'll be automatically entered to win!

**Power to dream**

**SCR**

**Food News with Melinda Lee on KNX 1070 NEWSRADIO**

Listen to Food News with Melinda Lee on KNX 1070 NEWSRADIO every Saturday and Sunday for more details.

**Water and Power Community Credit Union**

Membership at Water and Power Community Credit Union is available to employees of public utility, water, electric, gas and other utility-related firms. To make your membership inquiry, please visit us at [www.wpcu.org](http://www.wpcu.org) or call us at 800-900-8728.

*\* A Message From the CEO \**

# Hyperion's Service: Critical for Us All

by John Hawkins  
President and CEO, The Club

*Flush it ... then forget it.*

I remembered that phrase, said by Hyperion Division Manager Chuck Turhollow, the whole time while *Alive!* tour of the amazing Hyperion facility and its great people. That's what people tend to do with their wastewater, Chuck said – flush it and forget it. But that's when Hyperion's job is just beginning. Lots of people might forget it, but I never will again. I really recommend taking a tour of the facility; you'll really respect how hard they work to provide this critical service to the City.



From left: Hyperion Plant Manager Steve Fan, Division Manager Chuck Turhollow, and Club CEO John Hawkins.

On to other news – I hope you're as excited about the new Club Store as we are. The good folks here at the Club have been working hard on finding just the right spot, and I know we've found it. You can walk there from City Hall; you can walk there from the Transportation offices. You can walk there from all the City offices on Broadway and Hill and Spring Streets. We really believe it's so much better for you. We'll be open around May 1, so see you then! (And look for more details in future *Alive!* issues.)

Wow, there's so much going on in this issue! We here at *Alive!* always know when it's spring, because we have so much good stuff to bring you in the paper. Let's see – there's the St. Patrick's Day trio of the parade, the lunchtime party and St. Baldrick's; there's the great events honoring Black History Month; there's the always fun *Alive!* Around the World (in front of the Liberty Bell – I love it!); there's Hal, finishing up his long adventure in Zimbabwe; and there's even news of *Alive!* getting a parking ticket downtown. Now that's a full month!

And I just have to mention the retirement of Alvin Blain, General Manager of General Services and a great Club Member. We put the news of his retirement on the front page because he's one of the good ones. He started his career at the bottom, and through hard work, a clear vision and true dedication, he made it to the top. Good going, Alvin; we'll miss ya.

We'll, it's time to head back down to the new Club Store, and keep working on it. I want it to be a great place that you'll want to walk to, again and again. I'll report back when it's all done!

Until then, have a great April, and be sure to stop by and see us in the new digs!

**—JOHN**

(jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com)



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The newspaper of the  
City Employees Club of Los Angeles



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A trio of events celebrate Black History Month.

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Alvin Blain, who started as a garage attendant, retires as the General Manager of General Services.



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#### Correction

On page 24 of last month's *Alive!*, we printed a "Club Members Speak" story on tips for job interviews. The piece was written by Emily Gutierrez, LAFD. In a small postscript at the end of the story, we referred to her by an incorrect first name. Sorry about that, Emily; and we look forward to any future contributions to *Alive!*



**Cecilia Talbot,  
Claims Administrator**

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

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

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



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

# Great Service, When You're in Need

Your claims service was "excellent! Each person I have spoken to has been polite and expressed sympathy and concern in helping me sort through all City matters related to the death of my husband."

— Barbara Parmenter, January 2008

Your claims "service was great. Everybody was very nice and helpful. On a scale from 1 to 10, I would give it a perfect 10. All the people I called were quick to respond and followed through with what they said they were going to do. You were very understanding of my situation with my parents and myself in general. I thank you for your support."

— Derek McCullough, January 2008

"The service I received from City Employees Club of Los Angeles has been excellent, especially in moments like this, when I lost a loved one, my beloved wife. You have supported me in a very special way. May God bless you and prosper, City Employees Club of Los Angeles."

— Jesus Padilla, January 2008

## Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work

**Total claims paid back to Club Members  
So far in February 2008: \$701,498**

### Claims paid:

Life insurance claims paid this month: **\$192,073**

Life insurance claims paid this year: **\$471,310**

Long-term disability claims paid this month: **\$78,383**

Long-term disability claims paid this year: **\$180,994**

Long-term care claims paid this month: **\$14,160**

Long-term care claims paid this year: **\$39,193**

Cancer insurance claims paid this month: **\$10,000**

Cancer insurance claims paid this year: **\$10,000**

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

*It pays when you buy your insurance through the Club!*

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



## CLUB Member Benefits

### Club Insurance

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

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

### Great Ticket Discounts

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

### Club Partner Discounts\*

#### Enterprise Rent-a-Car

Call the Club for discount code and password!

#### 1-800-flowers

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

#### Office Depot

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

#### Dunn Edwards

Show your Club membership card and save 20%.

\*Contact the Club for more details.



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

### Need help? Find your Counselor

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



**2003 President's Award Recipient**  
**Arlene Herrero**  
Senior Benefits Specialist – Member Services Counselor

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

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



**Liz Montes**  
Member Services Counselor

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

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

## Meet the Club Team



John Hawkins  
President & CEO



Brian G. Trent  
Chief Financial Officer



Robert Larios  
Director of Communications & Marketing



**2006 President's Award Recipient**  
Navin Cotton  
Vendor Relations Manager  
"Ticket Guy"



Jessica Segura  
Merchandise and Ticket Sales Coordinator



**2004 President's Award Recipient**  
Cecilia Talbot  
Claims Administrator



Marla Fisher  
Claims Assistant



Angel Gomez  
Member Services Manager



Lupe Medina  
Administrative Services Representative



Howard Pompel  
Member Services Counselor, In-House



Leigh Thompson  
Controller



Trinh Pham  
Senior Accountant



Katie Hesseltine  
Application Coordinator



**2007 President's Award Recipient**  
Michael Anderson  
Information Technology Manager



Alan Bound  
Information Technology Programmer



**2005 President's Award Recipient**  
Summy Lam  
Information Technology Business Analyst

Questions? We're here to help.

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

**(800) 464-0452**

# LETTERS To the Editor

Tell us what you think! [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Shoutout!

### Mom Gives Props to 2 Sons for Achievements

On March 10, Ronnel Norman took the pilot's seat as airline captain of Air Cargo, based in Santa Barbara. This 25-year-old man has loved even the mention of flying as long as I can remember. He started at Compton Airport, where he is still a flight instructor.

After graduating from high school, Ronnel went into the Air Force and did his tour in South Korea, when he started his formal flying education. My son was encouraged to follow his dream and never give up and this is just the beginning. God bless him.

March 8, a debate was held at Paramount High School. The debate covered a number of topics, and a number of schools participated. My son, Aaron Norman, a senior at Paramount, won first place in the Most Inspirational category. My son is very active at this school, and in addition to school activities, he volunteers at the Long Beach Aquarium and is very active in a number of choirs at Central Baptist Church, Inglewood. Aaron will be attending Long Beach City then onto University of Cape Town, South Africa, and working at the Aquarium after high school. He aspires to become a marine biologist. Aaron is encouraged to keep up the good work. God bless him!

— Cathy Norman

### Story on City Budget Brought Lots of Ideas

I am proud to be part of an important organization that provides services to keep LA moving forward. Without us, the City Employees, LA would come to a stop.

During the last couple of months, I have read our Mayor, Antonio Villaraigosa, asking for some City Employees to take unpaid furloughs. The mayor should understand that we, the City Employees, also have bills and a family to feed, so his comment and idea is somewhat stupid.

He ought to look out of the box. First, he should say, what department heads do we not need that cost our city about \$120,000 and more a year for each head, not including overtime.

Why not ask some of the dealers to donate vehicles? The City can add an additional sign, kindly donated by Galpin Ford.

Another effective way to save money is the amount of printed material. I have noticed that half, if not more, of the communication paper matter is wasted. We have computers and e-mails. Employees can log onto a site and look at the information. Vendors who do business with the City — contracts and agreements — should be charged a nonrefundable fee to even be considered, which would generate funds for the City.

Stop management from taking City vehicles home.

If all the departments could make a list of what they think we can cut cost-effectively, I think this would help the City's budget.

— A City Employee

One suggestion is, offer a golden early retirement. Next month I will have 28 years in service, and if the City would offer an early retirement to those who are in the same boat that I am getting into, that would save the city dollars. Just like they did around 10 years ago.

— Barry Logan

The bumping rights that employees have can create chaos having employees going back to a position in the City were they started from. This is not productive; having everyone move will leave their workload unfinished.

I believe that if the thought of the mandatory furloughs was presented properly, most will agree. The alternative to this will be that people will lose jobs.

Is mandatory furlough a possibility, rather than having hundreds of people without job. There is a lot services that can be adjusted to prevent layoffs! Also, this is only going to be temporary; this will become the past.

— Gustavo Vindell, Housing

I found this article to be very disturbing! Having retired from the City of Los Angeles, but still in touch with former co-workers, I had heard about their request asking "civilian workers" to take five furlough days to assist the City in their budget shortfall.

How dare the mayor and City Council only target "civilian employees"! What about a one-day furlough for "all" city employees, from the mayor on down! This would include all elected officials within the City, also. Since a majority of these individuals are making a six-figure income, a one-day furlough from each and every one of them would greatly help the City budget.

For the mayor and City Council to only target the ranks of the "civilian employees" is definitely a punch in the gut. The mayor should remember that the "civilian employees" are the backbone, and without them the City would fall into disrepair!

— Barbara Lawrence

Just curious — doesn't the mayor read Alive? If he did, he would realize that there are tons of hard-working employees doing extremely important things. It seems as though he looks at us as a disposable commodity, something he can just "get rid of" when times get tough. If the mayor's not reading *Alive!*, maybe you should make sure his staff is.

Keep up the good work.

— Thomas Shetland, LAPD

Why is the mayor freaking out over the budget right now? Shouldn't he have been working on getting costs down for the last year or so? If he were the president of a company, the board would have fired him by now.

— Samantha, Public Works

## QUESTION



## of the Month

Our Club Counselors are all over the City, every day, serving our Club Members. While we're out, we'll be asking City employees a fun question. Keep your eyes open... you never know when we'll be asking you what you think!

### Which actor or actress do you want to portray you in the movie of your life?

**"Loretta Devine."**

— Loretta Brazil, Emergency Services Coordinator, DWP



**"Jennifer Hudson."**

— Cynthia Taylor, Senior Clerk Typist, Club Member



**"Edward Norton."**

— Glenn Smith, Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic, Club Member



**"Halle Berry."**

— Brenda Wade, Sr. Clerk Typist, Club Member



**"Denzel Washington."**

— Lester Baron, Materials Testing Tech



**"Danny DeVito."**

— Jesus Martinez, Treatment Plant Operator



**"Drew Barrymore."**

— Christina Kusch, Training Specialist, Management Analyst



**"Sasha Baron Cohen."**

— Michael Sestich, son of Mike Sestich, Harbor, Club Member



**"Samuel L. Jackson."**

— John Hawkins, Club CEO



**"Charles Bronson."**

— John Devine, Senior Building Inspector, Club Member

[Good choice, although Mr. Bronson has passed away. — Ed.]



# Newsbrief

## NEW CAO:

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa announced March 25 that he will appoint City Hall veteran Marcus Allen to take the City's fiscal helm when current City Administrative Officer Karen Sisson leaves to become Vice President and Treasurer of her alma mater, Pomona College.

Mayor Villaraigosa credited Sisson as one of the key architects of his fiscal management policy and for maintaining and improving the City's fiscal position.

"Karen is a good listener and consensus-builder," he said. "She also has the highest integrity. While the City will miss her financial and technical skill, her skill at finding opportunities to solve problems collaboratively and leading management change is the greater loss."

Once confirmed by the City Council, Allen will become the first African American to hold the position of CAO, the highest-ranking non-elected position in Los Angeles' government structure – responsible for the City's \$7 billion budget, labor-relations program and debt management. Sisson is the first woman to hold the post.

Allen comes with more than 15 years fiscal-management experience that cuts across City, County and federal offices, including:

- Five years as Chief Deputy and Assistant General Manager handling day-to-day operations and oversight of City fiscal systems for City Controller Laura Chick;
- Six years in progressively responsible positions for the Chief Legislative Analyst;
- Two years reviewing Medicare programs in the federal Office of Management and Budget;
- Two years running the County Probation Department's finances, serving as a budget deputy for County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky; and
- Two years serving as Mayor Villaraigosa's Deputy Chief of Staff and Chief Operations Officer with an instrumental leadership role in Mayor's first two budgets.

As Chick's Assistant General Manager (2000 to 2001) and Chief Deputy Controller (2002 to 2005), Allen revised the City's multi-billion dollar cash-flow model and designed the current system the Controller uses for performance-auditing, fraud waste, abuse and contract payment audits.

As the Deputy Chief of Staff in the first two years of Mayor Villaraigosa's administration, he was a principle force behind Mayor's FY2007-2008 budget, steering the budget to a unanimous approval in City Council. The budget identified \$50 million in efficiencies on day-to-day operations, while reducing the City's structural deficit by \$130 million over two years.

A graduate of UCLA with a Master's degree in public policy from the University of Chicago, Allen also served as the lead negotiator closing out six labor contracts during his time in the Mayor's Office.

Marcus Allen has spent the past nine months heading the company he created, Marcus Allen and Associates, where he provided public affairs and strategic counsel to a variety of clients.

Sisson has served in City government for more than 14 years, holding multiple positions. She began her City career with the Community Redevelopment Agency in 1990 working on loans for the LA Free Clinic and the LA Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, as well as executing the first bond issue for the Hollywood Redevelopment Project.

As Chief Financial Officer for Los Angeles World Airports, she oversaw LAX's financial recovery from the tragic events of 9/11 including garnering a "AA" rating from Standard & Poor's, the highest rating they had ever given to a general airport revenue bond.

Mayor Villaraigosa appointed Sisson Deputy Mayor for Finance and Performance Management in July 2005. In that role, she and her team successfully concluded the Mayor's first budget, which provided the funding to add 1,000 new officers by 2010.

She was appointed Interim CAO in December 2006 upon the resignation of her predecessor, Bill Fujioka, and confirmed as permanent CAO by the City Council in March 2007.

As CAO she led the team that negotiated the first five-year contract with the City's civilian unions in modern times. It is the first contract to implement gain sharing between the City and its unions and to have clear re-openers tied to economic conditions. She has also been a champion of long term financial planning and has increased the frequency of formal financial reporting to the Mayor and City Council.

"Marcus has incredible shoes to fill. Karen's sharp business acumen, approachability and honesty have made her one of the most effective and respected leaders in City Hall," the Mayor said. "As long as I am Mayor, there will always be a welcome home for her back in Los Angeles City Hall."

In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins and Member Services Manager Angel Gomez introduce you to people you see every day, but you might not know who they are. The Club reminds you that we all have names and stories to tell.

# People We See

*in downtown Los Angeles.*

No. 4 in a series.  
APRIL 2008



## Meet John

### HIS NEIGHBORHOOD:

San Pedro and First Street.

### AGE: 42

### BIRTHPLACE:

Torrance. Moved to Los Angeles one year ago.

### FAMILY:

No brothers or sisters.

### EDUCATION:

Graduate of high school and two years of college.

### MILITARY:

Yes, in the United States Navy.

**IF YOU COULD WISH FOR ANYTHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**  
"A million dollars."

### LAST JOB:

Never worked.

### FAVORITE SPORTS:

Football.

### FAVORITE FOOD:

Hamburgers.

### FAVORITE CANDY:

Snickers.

### FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY:

"San Pedro and First Street."

### ADVICE:

"Be good citizens."

### DATE WE MET MIKE:

March 21, 2008

*The Club gave John a \$25 McDonalds card and a blanket.*

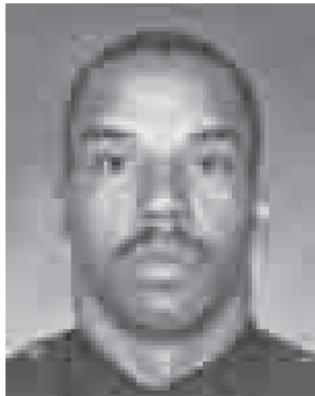


*Who are the people you see every day?*



Dr. Bill Burke, President of the Los Angeles Marathon, with Officer James Veenstra and his wife, LAPD Capt. Michelle Veenstra.

# Running For Randy



SWAT Officer Randal Simmons.



## ■ Officers hold torch relay for slain SWAT Officer Randal Simmons.

**POLICE DEPT.** — At the 23rd annual L.A. Marathon March 2, some 30 SWAT and Metro Police Officers had a torch relay in honor of their slain fellow officer Randal Simmons.

SWAT Officer Simmons was fatally shot on duty while trying to control a violent domestic dispute in February.

The last 1.5 miles of the marathon, Matt Simmons, the son of Officer Simmons, carried the torch.

After the marathon, the group was joined by SWAT Officer James Veenstra, who was shot and injured in the same incident that killed Officer Simmons.

Congratulations to this group of officers for their touching tribute to their slain brother. And thanks to Gary Sunkin for sending in the story and photos.



SWAT Officer James Veenstra with his wife, LAPD Capt. Michelle Veenstra, at the Los Angeles Marathon. Officer James Veenstra was shot and injured during the same violent domestic incident that killed his SWAT partner, Officer Randal Simmons.



Matt Simmons, son of slain SWAT Officer Randal Simmons, with Randal's widow, Lisa.



Lisa Simmons, widow of slain SWAT Officer Randal Simmons, talks at a news conference as part of the L.A. Marathon about the LAPD Torch Run.



Matt Simmons with the torch at the Los Angeles Marathon. Matt is the son of SWAT Officer Randal Simmons, who was killed in the line of duty in February.



Some of the participating officers with the Simmons family after the L.A. Marathon

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	COMPANY	2007-08 Cost
California Automobile Insurance Premium Survey	State Farm	\$1,100
	Geico	\$1,050
	Allstate	\$1,000
	Amica	\$950
	Mercury Insurance	\$870

These premium amounts are based on the 2007-08 survey by United Agencies, Inc. (UAGI) of 2007-08. Other agencies include Mercury Insurance Group, as well as other insurance carriers. Premiums may vary. Agency: Cal. State Employees Insurance, Allstate, Geico, Amica, United and Excess.



Some of the members of the LAPD Recruitment Division who, with Personnel, produced the event. Mayor Villaraigosa speaks to the group attending the morning VIP panel session.

## Safety Officer Career Expo

### ■ LAPD, LAFD host Black History Month Career Expo.

Story and photos courtesy Bruce Whidden, Public Information Director, Personnel



An LAFD recruiter helps an interested candidate put on the more than 60 pounds of equipment used every day in fighting fires.

**PERSONNEL** — The LAFD and LAPD Black History Month Career Expo – a day of seminars, demonstrations and displays – took place Feb. 23 at Crenshaw Christian Center.

Mayor Villaraigosa kicked off the Black History Month Career Expo with a VIP program featuring LAFD Chief Douglas Barry; LAPD Chief William Bratton; Maggie Whelan, General Manager, Personnel; and City commissioners.

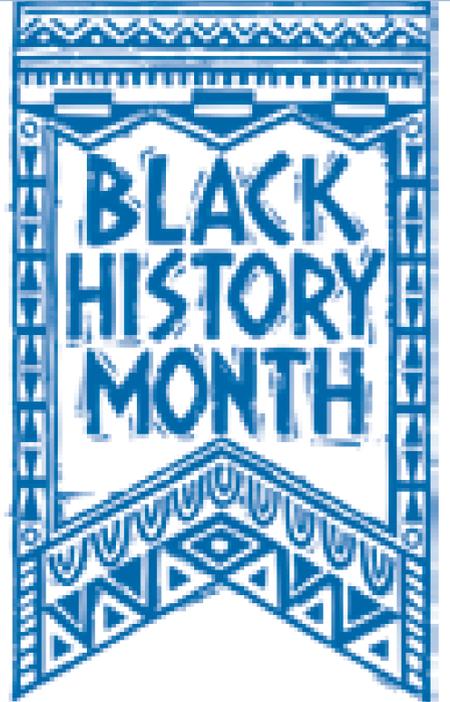
Presented in cooperation with Personnel, the daylong Black History Month Career Expo featured hiring seminars by both departments as well as two

opportunities to take the LAPD written examination, the first step toward a career with the LAPD. A highlight of the day was hands-on demonstrations offered by the LAFD. Young men and women attending the expo had the opportunity to see for themselves if they have what it takes to do "L.A.'s Hottest Job" by participating in a series of challenging strength and skill exercises including the hose drag, dummy pull and ladder lift.

The Black History Month Career Expo provided a chance for community members to meet police officers and firefighters and learn about the challenges and rewards of working in the public safety field. Visitors learned about the diverse career opportunities the LAPD and LAFD have to offer as well as gather information on how to prepare for success in the hiring process.



More than 104 men and women took the 90-minute LAPD written test during the two sessions at the Black History Month Career Expo. Personnel Department proctors conducted the test.



## Black Personnel's Trailblazers

### ■ LA Association of Black Personnel hosts annual Trailblazers reception.

Photos by Haywood Galbreath

**LAABP** — Community leaders, Councilmembers and City staff came together Feb. 21 for the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel's Trailblazers Reception, held in the Tom Bradley Room at City Hall. The annual event was co-sponsored by the Oscar Joel Bryant Association and the Brotherhood Crusade.

"This event recognized individuals who have contributed to the progress of African Americans in City government as well as achieved notable positions in their City careers," said LAABP President Cora Jackson-Fossett who made the award presentations with Oscar Joel Bryant Association President Ronnie Cato.



Trailblazer honorees and participants included (back row, from left) Kenneth Garner, Cora Jackson-Fossett, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Imudiase Aimiuwu and Ronnie Cato. Seated: Rita Robinson, Bertha Hurd and Regina Adams.

The honorees were Regina Adams, Executive Officer, Rec and Parks, who started 28 years ago as a Clerk Typist and advanced to Assistant General Manager; Imudiase Aimiuwu, a Statistical Research Analyst at the DWP and who serves as the DWP's program administrator for the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan; Deputy Chief Kenneth O. Garner, Commanding Officer, LAPD's West Bureau; Bertha Hurd, the City's first and only African-American nutritionist, who is responsible for more than 1.7 million annual meals provided to City residents who are 60 years and older; and Rita Robinson, General Manager, Transportation, former director of the City's Public Works/Sanitation, and Club Board Member.

Among the 100 guests offering salutes to the honorees were Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; City Councilmembers Jan Perry and Wendy Greuel; Commissioners Valerie Lynne Shaw and Paula Daniels of the Board of Public Works; Laura Trejo, General Manager, Aging; John Reamer, Inspector, Public Works; Assistant General Managers John Fisher, Amir Sedadi and Selwyn Hollins; and City Executives Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Joseph Rouzan and Rev. Leonard Jackson.

Committee members for the events were Co-chairs Susan Huntley and Shelia Brooks-LeFridge, Linda Lanier, Jannette Allen, Adriene Allen, Amber Johnson, JoAnn Moss, Janeshia Robinson, Victoria (Tori) Orellana, and Lillian Woodfin-Parker.

The LAABP is the official representative for City of Los Angeles employees of African-American heritage. Incorporated in 1972, the LAABP advocates equal employment within the City's workforce and increased opportunities for "people of

color" to attain management and executive positions. Among the services the organization provides are career development seminars, mock interview programs and networking forums.

### 2008 Trailblazers

**Regina Adams** serves as Executive Officer, Recreation and Parks. She began her career as a Clerk Typist in 1980 and held several professional positions in the Office of the City Administrative Officer as well as Budget Director for General Services and Assistant General Manager for Animal Services. Adams received her Bachelor's degree from Cal State Los Angeles and her MBA from Cal State Northridge. She is also a California Registered Tax preparer.

**Imudiase Aimiuwu** joined the City in 2000 as a Project Assistant with General Services. He has held a variety of increasing responsible positions and currently works at the DWP as an Operation and Statistical Research Analyst, overseeing the Los Angeles River Revitalization Master Plan and the Affordable Housing program in partnership with Housing. Aimiuwu, who studied in Florence, Italy, holds a Bachelor's degree in architecture, a Master's degree in urban planning, and a Certificate in geographic information systems.

**Kenneth Garner**, Deputy Chief, LAPD, is Commanding Officer of LAPD's West Bureau. A 30-year employee, Garner has more than 20 years of supervisory experience. He received his Associate's degree from L.A. Harbor College, his Bachelor's degree from Cal State Dominguez Hills, and he graduated from the FBI National Academy, the Supervisory Leadership Institute and the Senior Management Institute Program at Boston University. Garner is active with the Oscar Joel Bryant Foundation, the Association of Black Law Enforcement Executives, and the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

**Bertha Hurd** is the City's first and only African-American nutritionist. She is respon-



Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa (center) joined committee and LAABP Board members (from left) Amber Johnson (Controller's Office), Audrey Atkins (Airports), Jannette Allen (LAPD), Shelia Brooks-LeFridge (Controller's Office), Linda Lanier (Personnel), Adriene Murphy (Public Works), DeMarlo Sims (DWP), Mignon Washington (Housing), Sharon Loudd (Controller's Office), Cora Jackson-Fossett (Public Works), and Terrence Montgomery (Public Works).

sible for insuring that 1.7 million annual meals provided to City residents who are 60 years and older meet federal standards for nutritional quality, and state and local requirements for safety requirements. Hurd, who began her career 21 years ago with Aging, has participated in several initiatives, including the launch of the Meals on Wheels Los Angeles program and the certification for employees of all caterers providing meals for programs funded by the City.

**Rita Robinson**, General Manager, Transportation, directs 2,000 employees to provide for the safe and optimal mobility of people and goods throughout the City. Formerly director of Public Works/Sanitation, she has served several executive assignments in the Office of the City Administrative Officer, and Rec and Parks, Housing and Community Development. Robinson, who has more than 30 years of service, is a longtime resident of Southern California and a graduate of Scripps College in Claremont.



LAFD Chief Douglas Barry and Deputy City Attorney Michele Anderson.



From left: Assistant City Attorney Bernie Brown and Senior Assistant City Attorney Earl Thomas.



From left: Deputy City Attorney Gordon Turner; LAFD Chief Douglas Barry; Deputy City Attorney Carmen Hawkins (past President of the Association of Black City Attorneys); Deputy City Attorney Michele Anderson; City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo; Deputy City Attorney Serena Christian; and Senior Assistant City Attorney Earl Thomas.

# Black City Attorneys Remember, Celebrate

## ■ Association of Black City Attorneys celebrates Black History Month.

Story and photos by Yvonne Liu, Office of Finance

**CITY ATTORNEY** — On Feb. 20, the closed African American Firefighter Museum in the old Fire Station 30 was not quiet at all.

"Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing," the official song of the NAACP, could be heard outside the wooden panel doors where horse drawn fire trucks had once trotted forth. The singing was part of the Association of Black City Attorneys' celebration of Black History Month.

The Association was established in 1978 by founding members then-Assistant District Attorney Johnnie Cochrane and then-Deputy City Attorneys Les Brown, Galen Harmless, Sheryl Meshack and Cheryl Ward. The Association is currently 80 members strong.

"We have been doing this [annual luncheon] for many years," said Deputy City Attorney Michele B. Anderson, who organized this year's event. "It started out as an office lunch, where we cooked our own food and it just grew bigger and bigger."

Two fire station poles that date back to 1913 stand at opposite ends of the hall. Between them, 120 guests gathered for the

ceremony, including City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo, City Councilwoman Jan Perry, Fire Commission President Genethia Hundley-Hayes, and the Fire Chief command staff. This annual event has outgrown the Tom Bradley Room in City Hall.

Every year, the Association of Black City Attorneys celebrates Black History Month by honoring two outstanding African Americans. At this year's event, Senior Assistant City Attorney Earl Thomas and LAFD Fire Chief Douglas Barry joined an illustrious line of past honorees, including Judge Mablean Ephriam of the *Divorce Court* TV show; Judge Barbara Johnson; and Federal District Judge Terry J. Hatter Jr. Past award recipients have not exclusively been successful African Americans in the legal profession. In fact, the Association has honored the first African American appointed in Los Angeles Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra, the first African American firefighter, and Tuskegee Airman Roger C. Terry, who was part of the first black military airmen crew that served during World War II.

LAFD Capt. Armando Hogan, who is also a board member of the African American Firefighter Museum, said, "It is so special to be here. We're here at a once segregated fire station, and now we see a rainbow of people here."

Fire Station 30, one of two segregated fire stations in Los Angeles, served the Central Avenue community between 1924 and 1955.

Hogan, with 25 years of City service, presented the award to Chief Barry, who was flattered by the award. He greatly appreciated and respected this honor that was bestowed upon him and understood the importance of working together in the spirit of cooperation within the City family.

Assistant City Attorney Bernie Brown, who presented the award to Earl Thomas, has 20 years of City service, at least 10 of which were alongside Thomas.

"I like to describe Earl as a master of diplomacy," Brown said. "He can dissolve any situation. He's in charge of over 250 City Attorneys and 150 support staff, and he runs the Criminal and Special Litigation Section."

This is no small task, since there are seven Criminal Branches throughout Los Angeles, where department attorneys prosecute criminal cases. The Office of the City Attorney interfaces frequently with local law enforcement agencies, including the LAPD and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, and numerous City, county, state, and federal regulatory agencies to effectively prosecute crimes occurring throughout Los Angeles.

Earl Thomas, whose eldest son, Garth, was present for the ceremony, said the event filled him with "an indescribable feeling of pride" for his office.

"It is overwhelming for me to receive this award," Thomas said. "It is very special to me because it is given by the people I work with on a daily basis."

"It is an honor to receive this recognition and to hear people say such nice things about me. It's an unforgettable day, and it gave me a great feeling to know that I have this kind of support out there."

Deputy City Attorneys Michele Anderson and Serena Christian organized this year's luncheon as Co-Chairs of the event. The Luncheon Committee members were Stacey Anthony, Kristen Byrdson, Rose Dayo, Delia Fogelman, Armando Hogan, Lisa Hughes, Kim Johnson, Valerie Knight, Alma Martinez, Felton Newell, Akili Nickson, Laura Perez, Tayo Popoola, Christ Sanchez, Sharee Sanders, Gordon Turner, Ronnie Villanueva and Vanessa White.

The mission of the Association of Black City Attorneys has always been the mutual

aid, support and advancement of members of the African-American legal community both within and outside the Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney. The realization of that mission has been achieved throughout the years by way of the various activities undertaken by the membership. Within the City Attorney's Office, those activities have included meetings with the City Attorney and his staff to address employment conditions, promotions and career development opportunities for African American and other minority group attorneys. Outside the Office, the Association has furthered its goals by sponsoring events such as candidates' forums and debates, attending Law Day activities at area schools and assisting in the recruitment of promising new attorneys for employment.

"I am very proud of Earl Thomas," said City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo. "I am here to recognize the Association as a partner to our office in saving tax dollars and in fighting crime. [Earl Thomas] is the poster child for this organization. He stands for excellence, desire and service, and — what can I say — he's all-around a good man."

For more information on the African American Firefighter Museum, a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument and the recipient of the Los Angeles Conservancy's 1999 Preservation Award, go to <http://www.aaffmuseum.org/AboutUs/AboutUs.htm>



City Attorney Office Personnel, including Deputy City Attorneys and support staff.



From left: Senior Assistant City Attorney Earl Thomas (right) and City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo.



From left: Senior Assistant City Attorney Earl Thomas and his son, Garth.

### Chief Douglas Barry

LAFD Chief Douglas Barry has served the City of Los Angeles as a member of the Los Angeles Fire Department for 31 years.

He joined the Department as a Firefighter on Feb. 16, 1975, and served as Capt. I, Capt. II, Engineer, Battalion Chief, Chief of Staff, and Assistant Chief until he was promoted to Chief.

Chief Barry has served as liaison to the City Attorney's Office, the LAPD, the City Council, the Mayor's Office, the United States Coast Guard, Port Authorities, the Los Angeles County Fire Department, and the Long Beach Fire Department.

He has been responsible for fire protection at the Los Angeles International Airport and the Port of Los Angeles, three major refineries and a host of heavy commercial occupancies.

As a native son of Los Angeles, hailing from San Pedro, Chief Barry was born and raised in the South Bay, attending Narbonne High School, L.A. Harbor College, and California State University, Long Beach.

Chief Barry has earned the respect and support of not only his fellow firefighters, but also his community serving as Treasurer/Trustee and Deacon of Mt. Sinai Baptist Church in San Pedro. He is married and has three adult daughters. Chief Barry has maintained strong relationships with local community groups, block clubs, chambers of commerce and churches.



LAFD Chief Douglas Barry and his LAFD staff.



LAFD staff.

### Senior Assistant Attorney Earl Thomas

Earl Thomas graduated from Yale University, where he served as captain of the baseball team. He continued his education at the University of Southern California Law School. After law school, he joined a high-powered litigation firm until he found his home in the City Attorney's Office in 1980.

He has worked to advance criminal prosecution and the profile of the City Attorney's Office for more than 28 years. He began as a trial deputy and has risen through the ranks to Senior Assistant City Attorney, where he is the Deputy Chief of Criminal and Special Litigation as well as head of all branch operations.

His professional career has also led him to serve as president of the John M. Langston Bar Association and Member of the Board of Directors of the Southwest College Foundation, along with numerous other professional organizations.

He has dedicated his life to baseball, litigation and family. His open-door policy has made him a mentor for any City Attorney seeking advice.



# Crime Photos? He Could Write a Book

■ **Jim Hoerricks, LAPD's Senior Forensic Video Analyst, has written a comprehensive book on best practices for handling crime photos and video.**



Jim Hoerricks.

**POLICE DEPT.** — Every day, hundreds of thousands of images are captured for use in courtrooms and laboratories around the world. The employees of the agencies

that must process these images are often placed in these high-pressure positions with inadequate training and a lack of resources. What should they do? In what order should they do it? How do they even begin to process these images?

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

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

"Forensic Photoshop is for users of all levels," he says. "No matter the starting point or the level of

proficiency, readers will join in the journey to mastery. Mastery is knowing what needs to be done, how to best accomplish the task, and why the chosen method is the most appropriate.

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

"Because it seeks to achieve the goal of clarified and balanced images that remain true to their original content and context, the *Forensic Photoshop Workflow* is a must for law enforcement (image/video analysts, crime analysis, latent print specialists, questioned document examiners, and forensic/crime scene photographers) as well as for medical/scientific imaging specialists and photo journalists."

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

an expert in Forensic Video Analysis.

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



The front cover of Jim Hoerricks' new book.



Traffic Officer Eric Weaver, Central Division, Transportation, hands a parking ticket to Angel Gomez, the Club's Member Services Manager.

## Just the Ticket



**CLUB HEADQUARTERS** — The Club loves meeting with all kinds of great City Employees ... even when it's when we make a mistake!

While out in the field, meeting Club Members, the Club's Member Services Manager, Angel Gomez, miscalculated his timing and received a ticket from Traffic Officer Eric Weaver, Central Division, Transportation. Officer Weaver did a good job, of course, and was professional and kind to Angel.

So now, in addition to all the ways the Club serves City Employees, it will be doing a small part to alleviate the City's budget crunch by "donating" \$40 to the cause.

**City Employees Club is invited to a**  
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by **JEFF GELINEAU**  
Vice President of United Agencies,  
The Club's Auto and Home Insurance Partner



## Should I Submit A Claim, or Not?



How do you know whether or not you should bother submitting an insurance claim?

First, let's talk about auto insurance claims. These claims can be tricky.

The insurance company has the right to adjust your claim to the best of its ability. If you get involved in the claim and make things worse, the insurance company has a right to deny all coverage instead of helping you out. This is frequently the problem with people who try to handle their own claims.

Say you are in a parking lot and back into someone who is also backing out of their spot. The only damage is a broken taillight on the other car, so you say, "Oops, my fault," and offer to replace the taillight. You write them a check for \$125, thinking the matter is resolved. Then you get a notice in the mail six weeks later from an attorney saying that the person suffered "trauma to the neck and upper torso upon impact with your vehicle," and they are suing you for \$15,000. If you turn the claim over to the insurance company at that point, they might claim that you broke the terms of your policy by not reporting the claim "in a timely manner" after the incident, and deny coverage.

A simple rule to follow is: If there is anyone on, in or near the car, or the police are called for any reason, then *turn in the claim!* But, if there is not even the slightest possibility of someone submitting a bodily injury claim, then you may want to consider paying the claim yourself.

Comprehensive coverage covers losses arising from, among other things, fire, theft, vandalism and impact from flying objects. These claims generally do not affect your premiums. A major consideration in deciding whether to report these losses is your deductible. If the cost of these losses is below your deductible, then you would have to pay the entire cost of the loss anyway. Frequent comprehensive claims may also result in your insurance company raising your deductible or deleting this coverage upon your policy's renewal.

Collision coverage covers losses as a result of a collision with anything attached to the earth's surface. These claims most likely affect your premiums depending on the degree of fault attributed to you. Again, if you are involved in an accident with another vehicle, then *turn in the claim*, no matter how small or minor it might appear. But if you simply scratch your own car on your own garage door on the way to work, consider repairing it yourself.

Now let's look at homeowner's claims. Not everything is covered, but since you bought the coverage, you should not hesitate to use it when you need it. Insurance companies are heavily regulated by the state they operate in, and just like any business, they prefer happy customers rather than angry ones.

Insurance companies are allergic to claims. Increasingly, they are adding surcharges at renewal (or some may even drop your policy altogether) for a single claim in the past year. And, some homeowners insurance companies won't renew your coverage if you submit just two small claims within a few years, so it's best to avoid filing a small claim. A good rule of thumb is: Don't submit any homeowner's claim worth \$1,000 or less, or if your

deductible is higher than \$500, then use 1.5 times your deductible as the rule. This may seem crazy, but it's no good if they drop you.

Be careful of the "second claim." Most carriers will not cancel you for having one claim, but many will consider doing so if you have two claims in a three-year period.

To get some benefit from taking on so much of the risk yourself, raise your deductible to at least \$1,000. Some folks with decent emergency funds are even increasing their deductibles to \$2,500. Raising your deductible from \$250 to \$2,500 could cut your premium by up to 30 percent!

If you have one claim in 10 years that costs the insurance company \$10,000, you will probably remain in good standing with them as long as you pay your premiums. However, if you submit a \$1,000 claim every year for three to four years, you may find a cancellation notice in your mail before long.

All the claims you've submitted (and even claims that previous owners have submitted on your house) are reported to the CLUE (Comprehensive Loss Underwriting Exchange) database maintained by ChoicePoint. Consumers are entitled to one free copy of their CLUE report annually (for more information, go to [www.choicetrust.com](http://www.choicetrust.com) and click on CLUE Reports). Homeowners should read these files carefully, and immediately dispute errors or submit a written statement that fully explains any large losses.

Insurance agents are required to inform the insurance company of any claim that we know about, even if it isn't submitted to them as a claim. Every time you call us, we are obligated to say, "You need to submit this to the insurance company." But feel free to call us about your policies or any other issue that might come up.

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Check out the City Employees Club page on the United Agencies website at: [www.unitedagencies.com/cityclub](http://www.unitedagencies.com/cityclub)

This Website lists the upcoming visits we'll be making to City Department meetings, where you can ask us any question in person, and get an instant quote!

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

**Be safe and have fun!**

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Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa poses with Animal Services employees.

## New Animal Home On L.A.'s Westside



### Animal Services opens new West L.A. Animal Care Center.

ANIMAL SERVICES — The West L.A. Animal Care Center celebrated its grand opening Feb. 23.

The new facility, at 11361 W. Pico Blvd., features special community cat rooms, get-acquainted yards for dogs and adopters, and a grassy field for training.

Several hundred people visited the new center during the public grand opening to adopt fabulous dogs, cats and rabbits and participate in the free community fair, complete with pet-related giveaways and information, care and training demonstrations, face painting, and music. Adopted dogs also got to take advantage of the Pet Day Spa to make sure they looked picture perfect for their debut in their new home.



The West LA Animal Care Center opens its doors to the public.



Jesus Castillo, Club Member; and Patricia Kellogg, Club Member.



Members of the West LA Animal Care Center staff.



Members of the West L.A. Animal Care Center staff.



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Or call Daisy or Ben (909)994-3371





# A Rosie Future



## ■ Rosie Delgado retires from ITA after more than 30 years of City service.

Photos by Veronica Grayson

ITA — Friends, coworkers and family celebrated the retirement of Rosemary Delgado, Senior Clerk Typist, ITA, and Club Member. The party was held March 5 at Les Freres Taix French restaurant.

Here is a resolution from the City Council upon her retirement:

"Whereas, Rosemary Delgado, Senior Clerk Typist for the City's Information Technology Agency, is being honored for 30-plus years of outstanding service to the City of Los Angeles; and

"Whereas, Ms. Delgado started her career with the City of Los Angeles in 1974 as a Clerk Typist with the Department of Fire and Police Pensions and later became a Programmed Typewriter Operator in the Operator Series, working on the Wang and Olivetti Word Processing systems; and

"Whereas, in 1985, she was promoted to Senior Clerk Typist; and in 1987 transferred to the

Department of Pensions; and

"Whereas, in 1989 she transferred to the Department of Information Systems, and began her ITA career in the ISD Documentation Unit; and

"Whereas, Ms. Delgado worked in various ITA areas including Operations Support, Service Level Management Section, Systems Management, and Production Systems Support, performing various administrative support duties, becoming familiar with the use of the System 36, AS/400, TSO, as well as DisplayWrite 4, WordPerfect, and the MS Office Suite; and

"Whereas, Ms. Delgado also served as the Acting Executive Secretary to the ITA Operations Assistant General Manager; and

"Whereas, in 1996, Ms. Delgado transferred to the ITA Helpdesk area, where she performed many administrative support duties as this section developed into the Customer Service Resource Center and later into the Technology Service Center; and

"Whereas, Ms. Delgado ended her long career in the ITA Enterprise Service Bureau Executive Office area providing administrative support; and

"Whereas, Ms. Delgado has touched the lives of hundreds of her fellow employees in various departments with her friendly attitude and gracious demeanor;

"Now, therefore, be it resolved that by adoption of this resolution, the Mayor and City

Council of Los Angeles join the family, friends and coworkers of Rosemary Delgado in congratulating her on the completion of more than 30 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Los Angeles and extend her best wishes on a well deserved retirement."



From left: Henry Lee, Rosie Delgado and Dan Clark.





## HEY, Graduates!

Congratulations!

**Let the Club family celebrate with you ...  
by putting your photo in *Alive!***

Club members: Have you had a family member graduate from elementary school ... high school ... or college this summer? Send us a photo, and we'll publish it in *Alive!*

**Make sure you tell us:**

- The name of the graduate.
- The school from which they graduated. If a college, tell us their major.
- Their future plans (briefly)
- The name and department of the Club member they're related to (and how they're related)



Digital photos are preferred. Send them to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

If you have a paper print, send a duplicate (we prefer you not send the original) to:

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

Print photos will be returned within two months after publication if you request it, and if you write your name and address on the back.



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The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

# Discover Recycling

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**We will have complimentary:**

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- Free Food and Refreshments
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- Games and Prizes

**Time: Saturday, 9:00am to 3:00pm**

<p><b>East Valley District Yard</b> <b>May 3, 2008</b> 11050 Pendleton St. Sun Valley</p>	<p><b>West Valley District Yard</b> <b>May 17, 2008</b> 8840 Vanalden Ave. Northridge</p>	<p><b>North Central District Yard</b> <b>May 31, 2008</b> 452 San Fernando Rd. Los Angeles</p>	<p><b>So. Los Angeles District Yard</b> <b>June 7, 2008</b> 786 S. Mission Rd. Los Angeles</p>	<p><b>Harbor District Yard</b> <b>June 21, 2008</b> 1400 N. Gaffey St. San Pedro</p>	<p><b>W. Los Angeles District Yard</b> <b>June 28, 2008</b> 2027 Stoner Ave. Los Angeles</p>
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For more information call 1-800-773-2489 OR 3-1-1 OR visit our website at: [www.lacity.org/SAN](http://www.lacity.org/SAN) OR [www.kids.lacity.org](http://www.kids.lacity.org)

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles, does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities.

# Pay Tribute to Your Mom!

*Moms love tributes.  
It's the least you can do,  
after all she has done  
for you!*

**CITY EMPLOYEES:** Pay tribute to your mom this Mother's Day... with a photo and message of lifelong love, published in *Alive!*

In our May issue, we'll print a photo of you and your mom (or just your mom)... and a two-or-three sentence message of Happy Mother's Day from you. Photos can be either print or digital. Send it in now!

- Send in a print or digital photo of you and your mom (or just your mom). Send **high resolution** digital photos to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com). Send print photos (or drop them off in person) to City Employees Club, 350 S. Figueroa, Suite 700, Los Angeles 90012.
- Include a message of Happy Mother's Day (up to three sentences).
- **Deadline: April 14.**



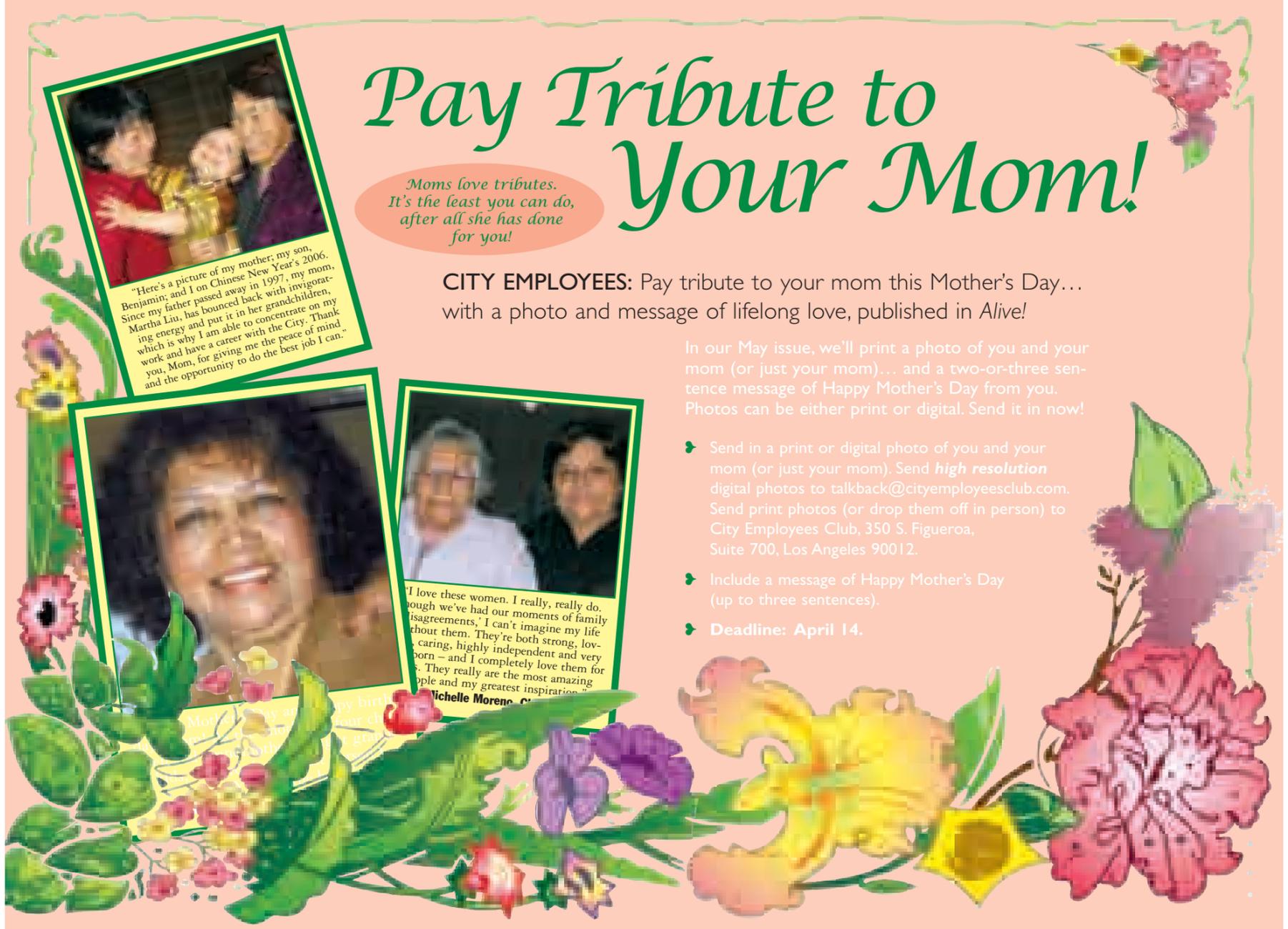
"Here's a picture of my mother, my son, Benjamin, and I on Chinese New Year's 2006. Since my father passed away in 1997, my mom, Martha Liu, has bounced back with invigorating energy and put it in her grandchildren, which is why I am able to concentrate on my work and have a career with the City. Thank you, Mom, for giving me the peace of mind and the opportunity to do the best job I can."



Mother's Day and my birthday... four children... grand...



I love these women. I really, really do. Although we've had our moments of family disagreements, I can't imagine my life without them. They're both strong, loving, caring, highly independent and very hard-working - and I completely love them for it. They really are the most amazing people and my greatest inspiration.  
Michelle Moreno, City of Los Angeles



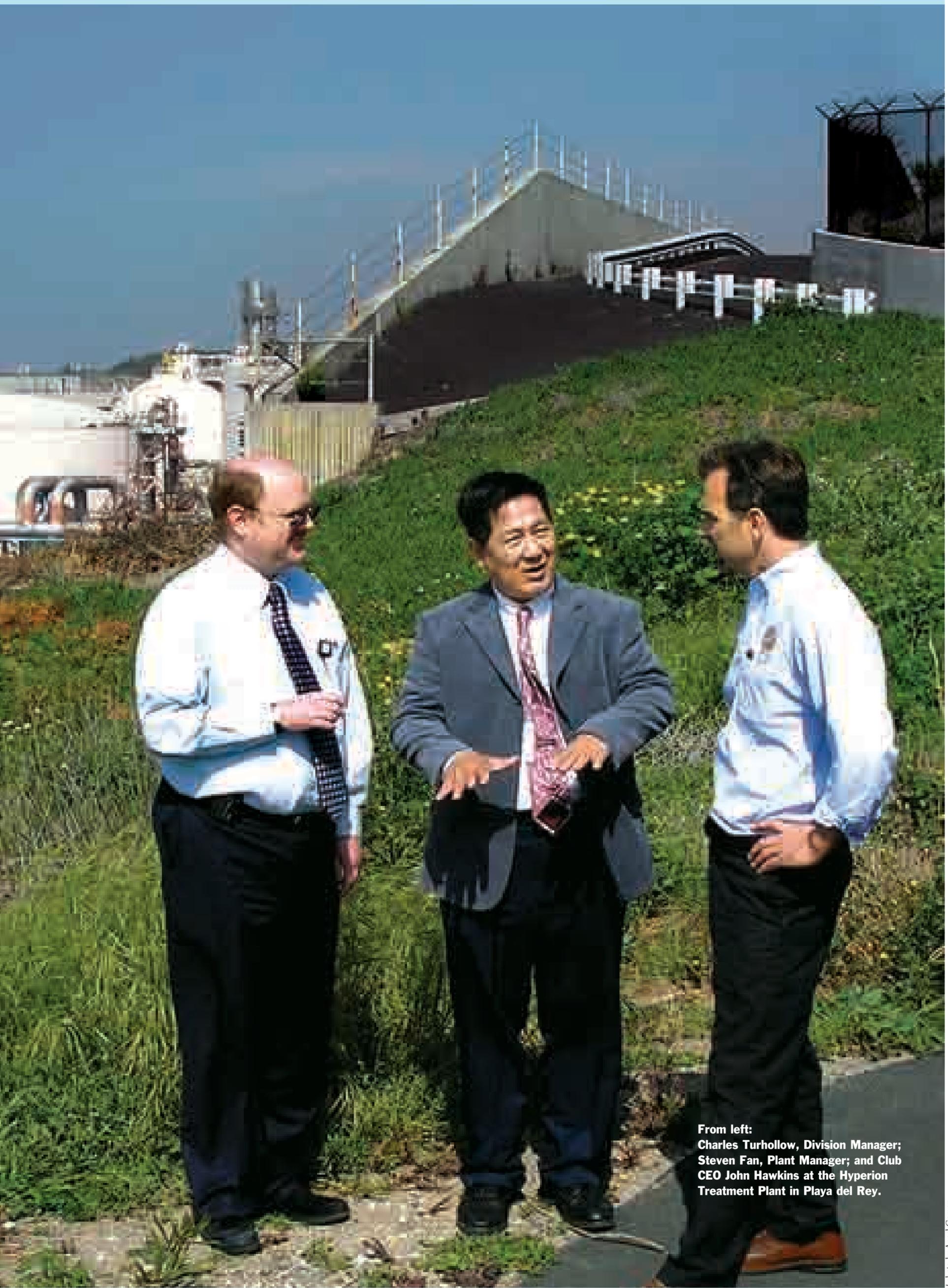
## ALIVE! FEATURE: Hyperion Treatment Plant

Where the

# Water Goes

Last year, you enjoyed *Alive's* feature on the L.A. Aqueduct, showing where some of the City's water came from. Now it's time to turn the tide, and see where it goes after it leaves your house or office, and before it reaches the ocean.

Here's *Alive's* day at the world-class Hyperion Treatment Plant.



From left:  
Charles Turhollow, Division Manager;  
Steven Fan, Plant Manager; and Club  
CEO John Hawkins at the Hyperion  
Treatment Plant in Playa del Rey.

# Where the Water Goes

## Hyperion Treatment Plant

### LOCATION:

12000 Vista del Mar  
Playa del Rey

### SIZE:

144 acres

### SERVES:

Entire City of Los Angeles  
(except Harbor area) and  
contract cities

### OPENED:

1925 as screening plant;  
1950 as full secondary  
treatment plant

### PLANT MANAGER:

Steve Fan

### NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES:

430 (Fiscal Year 2004-05)

### ANNUAL BUDGET:

\$49,639,103  
(Fiscal Year 2004-05)

### REUSE:

650 tons of biosolids sent  
to Green Acres Farm (Kern  
County) per day as a fertilizer  
and soil amendment; 8 million  
cubic feet of biogas converted  
to electricity per day

### WASTEWATER HANDLED:

450 million gallons per day

**For more information or  
tours, call (310) 648-5000  
or go to: [www.lasewers.org](http://www.lasewers.org)**



At the Secondary Treatment Operations Center Control Room are, back row, from left: Chang Huang, Instrument Mechanic, 18 years; Rudy Lingat, Waste Water Treatment Operator I, 20 years; and Allan Huang, Waste Water Treatment Operator II, 23 years. Seated: Serafin Malabanan, 17 years, and Oscar Espineda, Waster Water Operator, 22 years.

## Hyperion: Innovation and Excellence

The Hyperion Treatment Plant in Playa del Rey is where most of the City's pipes and sewers end, and where the serious work of cleaning up the water begins. The plant's modernization was voted one of the ten best public works projects of the 20th century, on par with Hoover Dam and the Golden Gate Bridge.

**PUBLIC WORKS** — The Hyperion Treatment Plant is the City's oldest and largest wastewater treatment facility and has been operating since 1894. The plant has been expanded and improved numerous times over the last 100-plus years. Today, leading edge technological innovations capitalize upon the opportunity to recover wastewater bio-resources that are used for energy generation and agricultural applications. In addition, air emission controls and odor management facilities are integrated in all improvements. More of these forward thinking strategies will become realities at Hyperion in the coming years to better protect our coastal environment and serve our communities.

November 23, 1998 is considered by many Southern Californians as the most important day in the history of healing Santa Monica Bay. On this day, the Hyperion Treatment Plant operated at full secondary treatment capacity for the first time in nearly half a century. This achievement assured the four million residents of Los Angeles and millions more neighbors and visitors that the world-renowned Santa Monica Bay would be protected from wastewater pollution for future generations.

### History

#### The Early Years

In the late 1800s, wastewater from Los Angeles—*El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de Los Angeles del la Porciúncula*—was conveyed through natural waterways to the ocean. In 1892, the City purchased 200 acres of oceanfront property, and from 1894 until 1925, raw sewage was discharged into near-shore ocean waters at Hyperion's future location.

Visitors to local beaches objected to raw sewage in their recreational waters, and in response, the City built and started operating the first treatment facility at the Hyperion site in 1925: a simple screening plant. This plant remained in operation until 1950.

#### 1950: A New Full Secondary Plant

The screening plant was not effective in preventing beach closures; highly polluted wastewater was still being discharged into near-shore waters. Just after the end of World War II, the City began to develop plans for a full secondary treatment plant at the Hyperion site. When the new Hyperion Treatment Plant opened in 1950,

it included a full secondary treatment system and biosolids processing to produce a heat-dried fertilizer. It was among the first facilities in the world to capture energy from biogas by operating anaerobic digesters, which have yielded a fuel gas by-product for more than 50 years. At the time, Hyperion was the first large secondary treatment plant on the West Coast, and one of the most modern facilities in the world.

#### Population Explosion

In the 1950s, the population of Los Angeles grew dramatically. To keep up with this growth and the associated higher wastewater flows, Hyperion's treatment levels were cut back. By 1957, the new plant was discharging a blend of secondary and primary effluent through a five-mile ocean outfall. Hyperion also stopped its biosolids-to-fertilizer program and began discharging digested sludge into Santa Monica Bay through a separate, seven-mile ocean outfall.

#### Sludge Out of Santa Monica Bay

In the 1980s, marine life in Santa Monica Bay suffered from the continuous discharge of 25 million pounds of wastewater solids (sludge) per month. Samples of the ocean floor where sludge



The egg-shaped digesters are visual trademarks of the Hyperion Plant.

## ALIVE! FEATURE: Hyperion Treatment Plant

— continued from page 16

had been discharged for 30 years demonstrated that the only living creatures were worms and a hardy species of clam. Additionally, coastal monitoring revealed that Bay waters often did not meet quality standards as the result of Hyperion's effluent. These issues resulted in the City entering into a consent decree with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the State of California to build major facility upgrades at Hyperion. In 1980, Los Angeles launched a massive sludge-out to full secondary program to capture all biosolids and keep them from entering the Bay. The sludge-out portion of the program was completed in 1987.

### Full Secondary System Rebuilt

The \$1.6 billion sludge-out to full secondary construction program in the 1990s replaced nearly every 1950-vintage wastewater processing system at Hyperion while the plant met all NPDES permit requirements. The full secondary system, completed in 1998, meant:

- treatment capacity was expanded to prevent virtually all minute particles suspended in effluent from being discharged to the ocean environment
- production of the cleanest effluent in more than 100 years
- the end of wastewater spills at Hyperion
- a 95 percent reduction in the amount of wastewater solids going into Santa Monica Bay
- the elimination of the Bay's ecological dead-zone near the mouth of the sludge outfall
- vast improvements in biological integrity of the bottom-dwelling marine community
- remarkable increases in the relative abundance of many indicator-species, and
- partnerships among the public, regulatory agencies, government and discharges that led to one of the great environmental achievements of the 20th century.

## Today

Further improvements at Hyperion are being planned and built to keep the plant on the leading edge environmental protection. Air emission controls continue to represent the leading edge of technology. Odor management facilities are integrated in all improvements. Resource recovery programs capitalize upon every possible opportunity to recycle renewable resources of wastewater and sludge treatment by-products.

### Primary Treatment

Primary treatment is provided to raw wastewater after it enters Hyperion to remove 85 percent of organic and inorganic solids. The process is a simple one: screened wastewater is detained undisturbed for one to two hours in primary sedimentation tanks, as solids (primary sludge) settle to the bottom of the tanks, or float to the surface. Chemicals are added to improve the efficiency of the settling process.

Sludge is collected in sumps, where it is pumped to anaerobic digesters for further processing. All incoming wastewater receives advanced (chemically assisted) primary treatment.

### Secondary Treatment

Secondary treatment removes practically all organic and inorganic solids that remain in primary effluent. Purification processes found in nature are duplicated, including biological treatment and clarification.

**Biological Treatment:** Primary effluent is distributed to aeration basins. Living microorganisms, called "activated sludge," feed on organic material remaining in primary effluent and multiply. Oxygen, blown in through thousands of diffusers, accelerates the biological process.

**Clarification:** After the microorganisms deplete their food supply, treated wastewater flows into secondary clarifying tanks where settling of the biomass occurs. The majority of the settled solids (activated sludge) is returned to aeration basins to continue purifying incoming primary effluent. Excess waste activated sludge is collected, thickened and pumped to digesters.

Secondary effluent, the cleaned wastewater, is virtually free of pollutants and is compatible with the marine environment. The effluent is discharged through the five-mile ocean pipeline; a portion is recycled for process and irrigation uses within the treatment plant.

### Biosolids

Biosolids start as sludge, the solid part of wastewater that arrives at the treatment plant and is processed by separation, heating, and dewatering. The City generates an average of 650 wet tons per day of dewatered, digested biosolids at the Hyperion Treatment Plant and 50 wet tons per day at the Terminal Island Treatment Plant. Sludge from the wastewater that is treated at the Tillman and Los Angeles - Glendale Water Reclamation Plants is piped to the Hyperion Treatment Plant, where it is processed into useful biosolids.

The biosolids produced at Hyperion were disposed in the ocean and in landfills until 1989, when the City started an extensive beneficial reuse program that continues today. The City received national awards from the U.S. EPA for rapid conversion from disposal to beneficial use of biosolids in 1989 and outstanding 100 percent beneficial reuse in 1994. In 2003, special recognition and awards were received from the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) and U.S. EPA for the City's Exceptional Quality Biosolids Program.

The biosolids are loaded on to trucks at the plants and transported to the 4,688 acre City-owned Green Acres Farm in Kern County, where most of the biosolids are applied as a fertilizer and soil amendment. Corn, wheat and alfalfa are grown on the farm as non-food crops. The biosolids produced at the treatment plants conform to Class A "Exceptional Quality" biosolids standards as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Scientific studies have consistently shown that Class A biosolids are safe and beneficial when used in land application. A smaller portion of the biosolids is mixed with green waste and zoo manure from the Los Angeles Zoo to produce compost at the Griffith Park Composting Facility.

### Revolutionary TIRE Project

The Bureau of Sanitation, faced with the ongoing and mounting problem of what to do with biosolids, the soil-like by-product of wastewater treatment, started building a project last year that it hopes will answer that big challenge – and create clean energy in the process.

The project is called the Terminal Island Renewable Energy project, which will inject biosolids into depleted oil and gas reservoirs 5,000 feet below Terminal Island. The biosolids will then be converted to clean energy through the natural conditions of high temperature and pressure existing below the earth's surface.

The Bureau hopes that the project will make the trucking of some 700 metric tons of biosolids to Kern County a thing of the past.

*Alive!* reported on the project last June, and will follow the project and report back upon its completion, perhaps later this year.

### World-Class Technologies

The original treatment plant that was built in 1950 left little room for expansion or construction of new facilities at Hyperion. Designers turned to several world's-first and emerging technologies to keep treatment of wastewater, biosolids and biogas within the property's footprint while pursuing the best treatment processes to protect the public health and the health of Santa Monica Bay.

Some of the cutting-edge processes that have been utilized include the following:

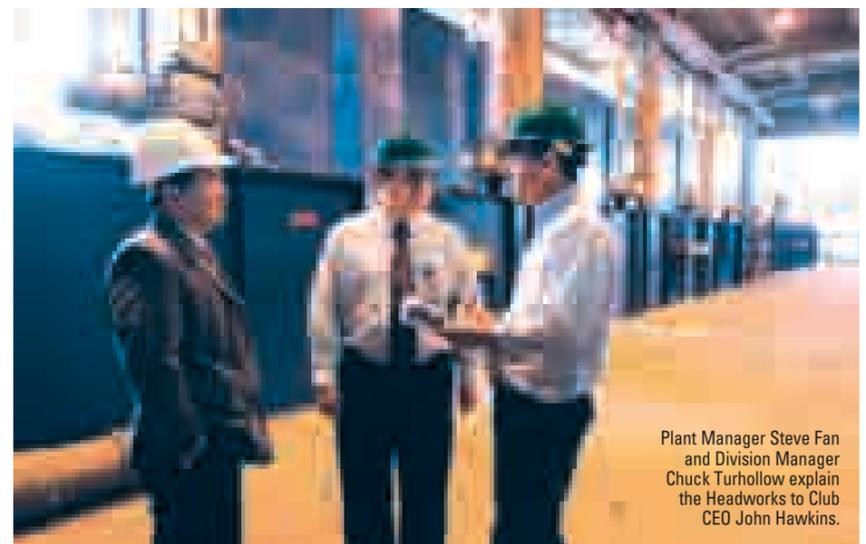
- The United States' first liquid "redox" process was installed to remove hydrogen sulfide from digester gas.
- One of the world's largest and earliest full-scale installation of high capacity, high performance dewatering centrifuges (nine total) are at Hyperion, each rated at 600 gallons per minute
- One of the world's largest collection of egg-shaped digesters are operating at Hyperion

— continued page 18



Plant Manager Steve Fan and Club CEO John Hawkins at Hyperion.

**The Terminal Island Renewable Energy Project will inject biosolids into depleted oil and gas reservoirs. The Bureau hopes the project will make trucking some 700 metric tons of biosolids every day a thing of the past.**

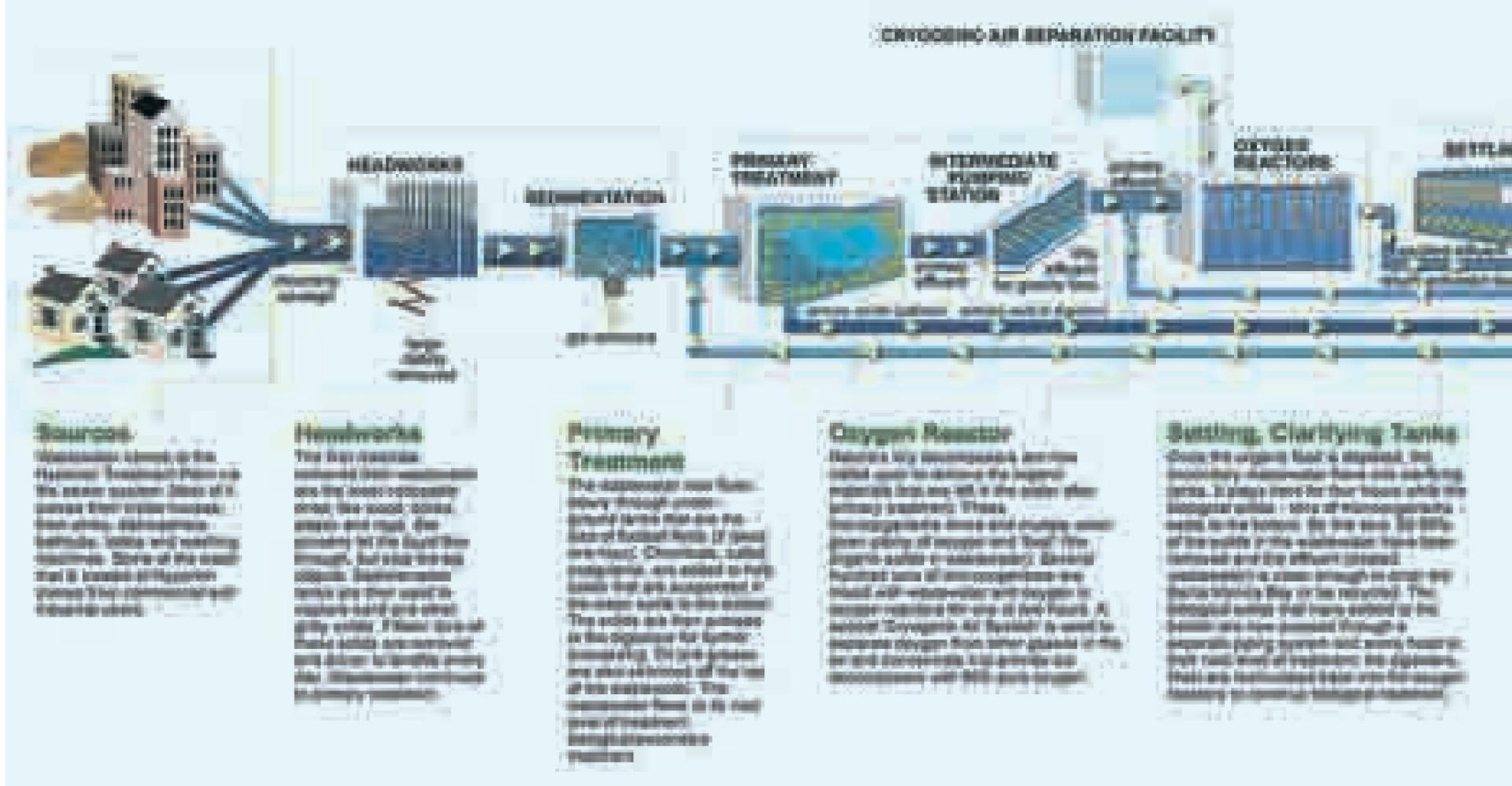


Plant Manager Steve Fan and Division Manager Chuck Turhollow explain the Headworks to Club CEO John Hawkins.



Division Manager Chuck Turhollow points out some of the solid refuse filtered out of the raw wastewater at the Headworks.

# Hyperion Wastewater Treatment System



These settling tanks play an important role in cleaning the City's wastewater.



At the Headworks, standing in front of one of the giant screeners are, from left: J. Smith, Intermediate Waste Water Operator, 24 years; George Poncé, Waster Water Operator I, 1 month; Oscar De La Paz, Acting Sr. Waste Water Operator, 21 years; and J.D. Smith, Waste Water Treatment Operator I, 20 years.



Allan Huang, Waste Water Treatment Operator II and Chief Trainer for the Cryogenic Facility, 23 years.



Salvador Lopez, Gardener Caretaker, 4 years.



Mario Mira, Mechanical Helper, 7 years.

## Where the Water Goes

— continued from page 17

- 20 digesters that can handle 45 million gallons per day of biosolids, plus 18 original digesters that can handle 35 million gallons per day.
- A biogas/steam energy exchange agreement.
- The tracking of odors and installation of odor scrubbers enabled Hyperion to achieve a 10-fold decrease in the number of odor complaints while essentially doubling the size of the operating facilities.
- Los Angeles is the largest municipal agency in the United States converting sludge to Class A (exceptional quality) biosolids using a pasteurization process; these biosolids have been produced since 2000.

### Maintenance and Operations

Maintenance personnel at Hyperion perform scheduled and corrective maintenance on thousands of pieces of manual and computer-controlled equipment. The work is carried out by about 275 skilled staff members. The spectrum of work ranges from tasks as simple as changing light bulbs to replacing 1200 horsepower motors.

Plant operations staff consists of 150 people who are responsible for taking readings, monitoring operations, making adjustments to equipment, and conducting preventive maintenance. Staff is on duty 24 hours a day to ensure that the plant functions properly.

Maintenance and operations staffs join teams, participate in workshops, and go on retreats that are designed to encourage feedback on how to improve the plant's efficiency and effectiveness. Staff and management collaboration have resulted in significant cost savings for the City and its ratepayers.

### Awards

The City's Hyperion Treatment Plant has won more than 25 major national and international awards since 1990. But the biggest one named it one of the top 10 public works projects for the entire 20th century.

The American Public Works Association (APWA) selected the Hyperion Treatment Plant Sludge Out to Full Secondary Projects of the 20th century. This award was given for nearly two decades work by the Bureaus of Engineering, Sanitation and Contract Administration. The \$1.4 billion Hyperion Project assures residents of Los Angeles, tourists and neighbors of our City that the world renowned Santa Monica Bay would be protected from wastewater pollution for generations to come.

APWA developed the Top Ten Public Works Projects of the Century Program to honor the ten most outstanding public works projects of the 20th century that significantly affected and improved the quality of life in the United States or Canada. The goal was to generate awareness of the positive contributions public works has made as well as to build appreciation for public works and its contributions to North America.

The program considered public works contributions from projects of all sizes and agencies of all levels of government within the United States, Canada, and their territories.

### The list of the winners:

- Hyperion Treatment Plant
- Bay Area Rapid Transit
- Panama Canal
- Hoover Dam
- St. Lawrence Seaway
- Grand Coulee Dam
- Interstate Highway System
- Golden Gate Bridge
- Reversal of the Chicago River
- Tennessee Valley Authority

### For More Information

For more information or to schedule a tour of the Hyperion Treatment Plant, go to: [LAsewers.org](http://LAsewers.org)



**Water Reuse**

Much of the wastewater treated effluent is recycled on-site. Some treated effluent is piped to a pool for reuse on the grounds, and other effluent is recycled for use in the plant. This effluent is used for a variety of purposes, such as irrigation of the grounds. About 95% of the treated effluent is recycled in a variety of ways, such as for use in the plant, for irrigation of the grounds, and for use in the plant. This effluent is used for a variety of purposes, such as irrigation of the grounds, and for use in the plant.

**Digestion**

After the first stage of treatment, the wastewater is sent to the digester. The digester is a large tank where the wastewater is held for a period of time. During this time, the bacteria in the wastewater break down the organic matter. This process is called digestion. The digester is a large tank where the wastewater is held for a period of time. During this time, the bacteria in the wastewater break down the organic matter. This process is called digestion.

**Chemical Filing**

Residuals are very heavy when they come out of the digester. To keep the residuals from settling, we add the amount of water in the residuals by adding them through a series of pipes. This process is called chemical filing. The residuals are held in the digester for a period of time before they are sent to the next stage of treatment.

**Energy Recovery**

Sludge gas (biogas) produced during digestion is captured and used for energy. This gas is used to power a generator, which produces electricity. The electricity is used to power the plant's equipment. This process is called energy recovery.



Working in the Headworks, where the giant trash screeners are, are, from left: Pete Sierra, Sr. Waste Water Mechanic II, 21 years; Vince Ruiz, Waste Water Mechanic I, 6 years; Earl Mallet, Mechanical Helper, 18 years; Lee Chavers, Mechanical Helper, 19 years; and Greg Scalzo, Mechanical Helper, 3-1/2 months.



In the Welding Shop, gathered around the "Iron Worker" are, from left: Todd Cromwell, Welder, 3 years; Jaime Alvarez, Mechanical Helper, 2 years; Dennis Flinn, Welder, 20 years; Tim Hall, Welder, 12 years; and Don Kutsch, Welder, 8 years.



In the Carpenter Shop, working on the drum sander are, from left: Matt Poire, Carpenter Supervisor, 8 years; and Jeff Crane, Sr. Carpenter, 25 years.



In the Carpenter Shop: Ted Piper, Sr. Carpenter/Planner, 23 years.



John Parrish, Power Shovel Operator, 22 years, was driving a tour tram on the day we visited.



Sheri Symons, Environment Engineer, 19 years, and Anthony Brown, Plant Equipment Trainee, 7 years.



In the Machine Shop, working on a digester gearbox, are, from left: Raymond See, Machinist, 24.5 years, and Mathew Tobin, Machinist 4.5 years.



In the Mechanical Shop, from left: Marcus Lyons, Waste Water Treatment Mechanic Supervisor, 21 years; Jose Alvarez, Waste Water Treatment Mechanic I, 8 years; and Gabriel Viado, Waste Water Treatment Mechanic II/Maintenance Planner, 7 years.



Anthony Bonner, Sr. Window Cleaner, 23 years.



In the Carpenter Shop: Robert Raschke, Carpenter, 1 year.

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Herb McNeely, LA City Historical Society, Past Board Member, stands next to his poster.

# City Hall Posters For Sale

■ **City Historical Society is offering original posters for sale. They feature various L.A. City Halls.**

*Story by Hynda Rudd, Retired City Archivist; Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Marketing and Communications*

LACHS — The Los Angeles City Historical Society (LACHS) is now selling posters of various City Halls. The posters feature original artwork by former LACHS Board Member Herb McNeely.

Herb McNeely is a second generation Angeleno. His interest in drawing tall Los Angeles buildings began when he was young. But it wasn't until the 1980s that he began researching the history of these stone monuments. During the City's Sesquicentennial, he became seriously motivated to work on our beloved City Hall.

About 10 years ago, he came to visit me at the

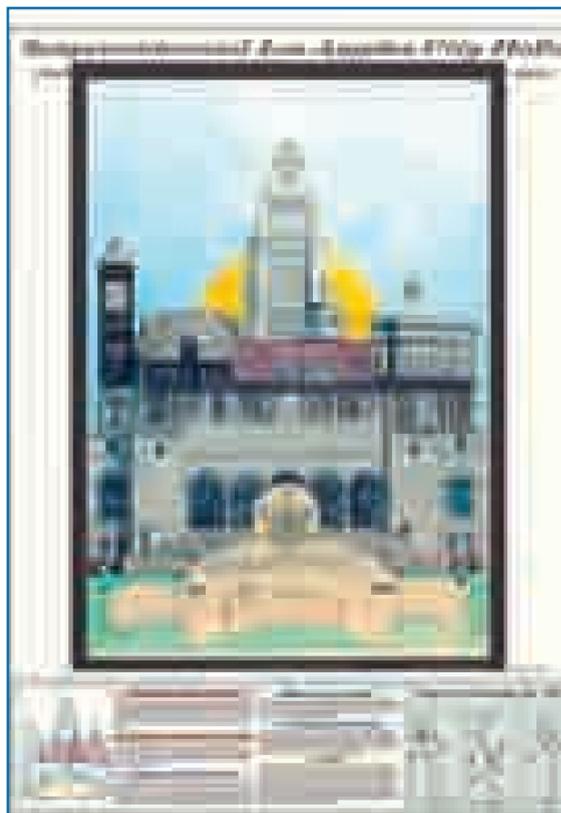
City Clerk's Records Management Division at Piper Technical Center with a beautiful colored drawing of our current City Hall. At that time I was in the midst of working on the Los Angeles City Historical Society's history of our City government, published last September. The Board decided that Herb should incorporate as many other Los Angeles City Halls as was visibly possible to be configured around his central building. When completed, Raymond Kwan, City Hall photographer, added finishing touches with a legend, description and map of the building sites, along with a short history of our City Seal.

The posters are available in two sizes.

The larger size, two feet high by 19 inches across, is \$15 plus tax and shipping. The smaller size, 19 inches tall by 13 inches wide, is \$10 plus tax and shipping. They can be purchased through the Los Angeles City Historical Society, P.O. Box 41046, Los Angeles, CA 90041. Please write "Poster" on the envelope.



At the recent Archive Open House (see separate story), Cal State Northridge Professor Lenard Pitt looks over the poster by Herb McNeely.



The Los Angeles City Historical Society Poster, by Herb McNeely, is on sale now.

## Newsbrief

### IT'S "TOPANGA:"

Councilmembers Dennis P. Zine and Greig Smith, in conjunction with the Los Angeles Police Department, announced that the new community police station in Canoga Park will be named the "Topanga Police Station," and they declared a grand-prize winner in the Police Station Naming Contest.

The Councilmembers held a contest for the community to provide input in naming the new police station on Schoenborn Street in Canoga Park. Approximately 500 entries were submitted and a Naming Committee was formed to review the entries and make a final selection. Six contestants submitted the winning name, and a drawing was held to declare the grand-prize winner. Westfield partnered with the Council Offices to offer a \$1,000 gift card to their many shopping centers for the winner of the naming contest.

Rebecca Westberg was picked as the grand-prize winner. Ms. Westberg demonstrated tremendous community spirit by immediately announcing to the crowd of police officers, officials and families of the finalists that she would donate her \$1,000 gift card to support officers of the new Topanga Police Station.

"I am elated that so many people took part in the contest and am very proud of the name that was ultimately selected," said Councilman Dennis P. Zine (District 3). "Our goal was to have the public feel connected to the new police facility, and I think that objective was accomplished here today."

"This state-of-the-art facility will be a major asset to the community," said Councilman Greig Smith (District 12). "It is a great resource for the public and has now been given its identity by the people it will serve."

The new police station, located at 21501 Schoenborn Street in Canoga Park, will bring police officers closer to the community in hopes of improving police service and reducing crime.

As LAPD Reserve Officers and members of the Public Safety Committee, Councilmembers Smith and Zine have continually worked to ensure public safety throughout the San Fernando Valley and the City of Los Angeles.

# Sanitation Graduation



## Sanitation hosts ceremony for graduates of its Career Development Training Program.

Photos by Robert Larios, Club Director of Marketing and Communications

**PUBLIC WORKS** — The Bureau of Sanitation held a ceremony Jan. 17 to honor the graduates of its most recent Career Development Training Program.

The program was established to ensure the Bureau has a readily available pool of qualified personnel for promotion, as well as to inform its Solid Resources Collection workers of the need for excellent customer service.

The Club thanks Sal Miranda, Manager I of the Solid Resources Valley Collection Division; Ray Cruz, East Valley District Superintendent II; and Lauren Skinner for their assistance.

The graduates honored were (not all were present at the ceremony):

- Samuel Aguilar
- Jorge Barajas
- Wortham Briscoe

- Bernita Boney
- Ronnie Calhoun
- Ernesto Cruz
- Albert Gerardo
- Daniel Govea
- Jeanette Hall-Smith
- Michael Herrera
- Jerome Johnson
- Morris Jones Jr.
- Angel Lara
- Gabriel Miranda
- Jesus Morgia
- James Norman
- Charles Oskierko
- Paul Porter
- Jeff Quemada
- Alfred Reed
- Javier Fabian Reza
- Pablo Serrano
- Kevin Sherman
- Corey J. Stewart, and
- Phillip Valenzuela



Bernita Boney



Jeanette Hall Smith



Jesus Morgia



Ernesto Cruz



Jerome Johnson



James Morgia



Albert Gerardo



Angel Lara



Jeff Quemada



Samuel Aguilar



Jorge Barajas



Daniel Gove



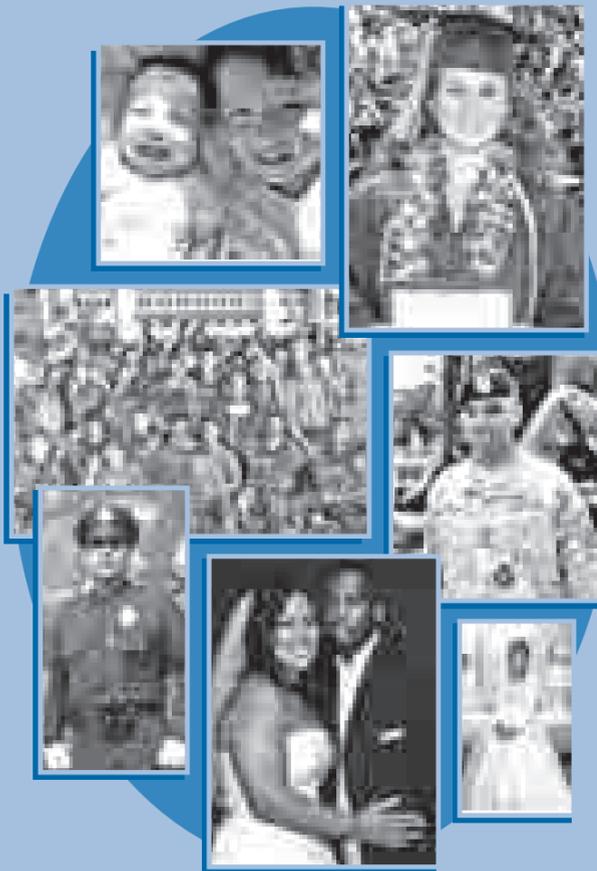
Gabriel Miranda



Corey J. Stewart

## Life's Important Moments

# Share Your Good News!



Everyone reads Life's Most Important Moments in **Alive!** Share your news... and send in a photo! Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Has someone in your family had a quinceañera? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details. We love to share your good news.

### We're looking for:

- Weddings
- Babies
- Graduations
- Promotions
- Quinceañeras
- Special Achievements
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Send digital photos (as high a resolution as you can send) to: [moments@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:moments@cityemployeesclub.com)  
 OR send paper photos (please don't send the only one you have!) to:

Life's Moments - **Alive!**  
 City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071



# History of Transportation: Bridges

■ First in an occasional series on the history of Transportation in L.A.

## The City's River Bridges

Bridges are sections of roadways that span over canyons, rivers, railroads and other streets. Most of us travel along or under a bridge en route to work and tend to notice just the pavement as we drive by. However, if we look at the bridge structure above us or from afar, we come to recognize that bridges are the most elegant sections of the City's roadways. This becomes apparent when we examine the bridges that span the City's two primary rivers – Arroyo Seco and the Los Angeles River.

Construction of the bridges over the Arroyo Seco and Los Angeles River was perhaps the greatest public works project ever undertaken by the City. In the two-year period, 1910-11, three bridges were constructed to accommodate the first automobiles. They were York Boulevard over the



The Olympic Street (Ninth Street) Bridge.

Arroyo Seco, and Buena Vista Street and North Main Street over the Los Angeles River. However, they would soon no longer be adequate for the tremendous growth that would occur in Southern California. As a result, in the short seven-year time frame from 1925 to 1932, an amazing 15 concrete bridges were built to replace timber and less-substantial bridges. Two of these were constructed to span the Arroyo Seco (Avenue 26 and Avenue 60) and 13 were constructed to span the Los Angeles River – Riverside Drive (near Victory Boulevard), Los Feliz Boulevard, Hyperion Avenue, Fletcher Drive, Riverside Drive (near Figueroa Street), North Spring Street, Macy Street (Cesar Chavez Avenue), First Street, Fourth Street, Sixth Street, Seventh Street, Ninth Street and Washington Boulevard. All of them were designed and constructed under the supervision of Merrill Butler.

Near the downtown area, the bridges were strategically sequenced for construction starting at the southern and northern extremes and finishing near the middle. First, Ninth Street was constructed in 1925, followed by Macy Street, Seventh Street, First Street, Fourth Street and finally Sixth Street, constructed in 1932. The Washington Boulevard bridges, those near the Elysian Hills and Griffith Park and those over the Arroyo Seco, also were built during the same period, but in no special sequence.

All of these bridges were of a concrete arch design. And like those in Washington, D.C., Chicago,

Milwaukee and other river cities, they are among the most beautiful in the United States. While many of them have traditional Beaux Arts features, each has its own distinctive design, in terms of balustrade, towers, integrated ornamental lighting and other features. The towers add a presence of grandeur. Those for the Fourth Street bridge are Gothic in design, while those for the Sixth Street bridge are Art Deco. The Hyperion Avenue towers have a Spanish Revival design. The Avenue 60 Bridge has a whimsical fan pattern along its balustrade. The Washington Boulevard Bridge shows a "men-at-work" painting, a common theme during the Great Depression, which suggests that modern industry will lead to a more promising future. The Macy Street Bridge pays tribute to Junipero Serra and integrates the City seal in its towers.

Several bridges no longer carry their original street names, such as Buena Vista Street (now North Broadway), Macy Street (now Cesar E. Chavez Avenue), and Ninth Street (now Olympic Boulevard). Also, several no longer look historic, due to replacement of the railings and street lighting, such as the Los Feliz Boulevard and North Main Street bridges. Finally, one bridge that was modernized in the 1970s was restored in 2000 to look just as it did when it was constructed in 1911 (North Broadway).

There are many other smaller bridges throughout the City that look nearly as attractive as the ones mentioned here. But none exemplify the vision, aspiration, pride and beauty of an emerging major city more than the bridges spanning the Arroyo Seco and the Los Angeles River.



The First Street Viaduct, circa 1930.



The First Street Viaduct (bridge).

Our author of the History column this month is John Fisher, the Assistant General Manager of Transportation Operations, Transportation. John has been with Transportation since 1973. He holds a Bachelor's degree in civil engineering and a Master's degree in public administration. He is a registered professional engineer and is active with transportation societies at the national and state levels.

John tells us that he became interested in the history of transportation and traffic management in southern California as a result of connecting with "old timers" who knew the City's pioneering traffic engineers and who passed along stories. The stories, photos, historic newspaper and magazine articles, and research in the City Archives revealed information that had not been documented before. John decided to make the result of his research available on the Transportation Website, under the title "Transportation Topics and Tales," where this material first appeared.

John will contribute articles occasionally to this space. I hope you enjoy his stories as much as I do!

—Hynda



Guest columnist  
John Fisher.



The Franklin Avenue Bridge.

# History Comes Alive!

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



Tales From the City Archives

## Pedestrian Tunnels



An archive photo of the pedestrian subway in a typical usage of the time, for a school at Van Ness Avenue near Maplewood Avenue.



The Crescent Heights Boulevard pedestrian tunnel under Olympic Boulevard.

Our civic leaders first addressed the problem of conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles by committing to a major infrastructure program of pedestrian tunnels. These tunnels were called subways and were built below major thoroughfares near schools. A few other cities built tunnels, as well.

The benefits of pedestrian subways became apparent soon after the initial installations. The first pedestrian subways, a pair, were constructed in 1918 in front of a large public school, and passed below an interurban (Red Car) railway and heavily traveled street. It became evident that the subways reduced the hazard to school children, relieved parental anxiety, and eliminated annoyance to motorists. A few years later in 1924, several small children were seriously injured in attempting to cross Sunset Boulevard at Micheltorena Avenue in front of an elementary school in the Echo Park community of Los Angeles. In response to this tragedy, the City Council financed the construction of a pedestrian subway at this location. Officials soon realized that this subway not only successfully

accomplished its objective, but also saved the salary of a police officer who had been stationed at the school. The idea of the school pedestrian subway quickly became very popular, and in the 1925 spring elections, Los Angeles voters approved a \$350,000 bond issue to build school pedestrian subways. Forty pedestrian subways were financed from this bond. An additional 17 subways were constructed by assessment districts as part of arterial paving and widening projects. Sixteen were financed by the Board of Education, three by the federal government, one by the County of Los Angeles, and 15 by a combination of City, Board and federal sources. The California Division of Highways (now Caltrans) built the remainder as part of the construction of the Hollywood and Harbor Freeways. Over a 35-year period, approximately 115 pedestrian subways were constructed, 87 of which were for safe school access.

The design of the subways soon became well standardized after experience was gained with the initial installations. All were characterized with ornamental iron railings and the small blue-on-white porcelain enamel sign, "Pedestrian Use Subway." The interior width was six feet and the height was seven feet. For drainage purposes, floors had a 1.5-inch crown at the center so that water would run along the sides and collect via a sump pump recessed in the side

wall. The sumps were then connected to a storm drain. For graffiti prevention purposes, the interior walls had a lumpy "spatter dash" mortar finish. Lights were recessed with a heavy wire mesh cover.

Although pedestrian subways were far more expensive to build than overcrossings, they were nonetheless the preferred facility. Only three overcrossings were built, as contrasted with 115 subways. There were two primary reasons for this. First, the subways were less of a vertical obstacle than overcrossings – nine feet versus 15 feet. The second reason is that the ascending stairways of overcrossings were perceived as unsightly fixed objects, and objectionable to nearby property owners.

In time, the subways fell out of fashion. The proliferation of traffic signals near schools provided a less expensive, albeit somewhat less effective, response to school safety needs. But more importantly, the subways, intended to enhance the safety of school children, were becoming recognized as being detrimental to their welfare. The subways became more frequently misused by the lower elements of society who would render them dangerous and unsanitary. As a result, many of the subways were closed part-time or on an all-day basis by the removal of the ornamental iron railings, and the installation of cyclone fencing and locked gates atop the stairway walls.

Los Angeles was unique in its commitment to infrastructure for school pedestrian grade separation. So, when you see these vintage structures near elementary schools in the older areas of the City, be reminded of a more genteel society, and the first major civic commitment to school pedestrian safety.



Bradley Smith worked on the under-construction new Parker Center downtown.



From left: David A. Paschal, Assistant General Manager, Property Management, and Chief Deputy City Engineer Bradley M. Smith.



The Property Management department with Chief Deputy City Engineer Bradley M. Smith.

# Bradley Smith Retires

■ **Chief Deputy City Engineer retires after an illustrious career with the City.**

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

**GENERAL SERVICES** — The Property Management department at General Services came together Jan. 23 to share cake and say farewell to Chief Deputy City Engineer Bradley Smith, who retired after 39 years of service.

The party took place in City Hall South. Here are excerpts from a resolution produced by Councilman Bill Rosendahl and the City Council:

"Whereas, Bradley M. Smith, Chief Deputy City Engineer, is retiring on January 4, 2008, after more than 39 years of professional and dedicated service to the City of Los Angeles; and

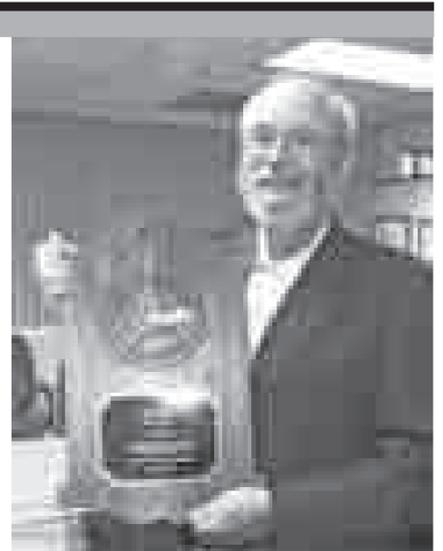
"Whereas, Brad ... began his professional career with the City of Los Angeles as a Civil Engineering Assistant on his 22nd birthday, and

"Whereas, Brad has progressed through all levels of responsibility within the Bureau of Engineering, from entry level design engineer to Division Head to Chief Deputy City Engineer acting as the Chief Operating Officer for the entire Bureau of Engineering for the past 11 years, and as Interim City Engineer in 2003; and

"Whereas, Brad, served as Chief Deputy City Engineer for four City Engineers, and oversaw Municipal Facility Bond Programs, Wastewater, Streets and Municipal Facilities Capital Improvement Programs, and Public Permit Services, and virtually all other functions of the Bureau of Engineering; and

"Whereas, Brad, for nearly 20 years, was a key contributor to the successful \$2.5 billion Wastewater Program implementation, including the design and construction of the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant, the cessation of sewage sludge discharge to the ocean, the Wastewater Program 100 Year Advance Planning Report, the planning, and design of the NORS, ECIS and NEIS sewer tunnels and the planning, design and construction of Full Secondary Treatment at Hyperion, which earned recognition from the American Public Works Association as one of the Top Ten Projects in the 20th century. Brad served as Division Engineer in charge of the Wastewater Program Management Division and as Deputy City Engineer for Wastewater during the Full Secondary Treatment program; and

"Whereas, Brad has been the City of Los Angeles' Infrastructure Bond Program Manager, overseeing \$2.4 billion of bond-funded construction programs, which have successfully delivered 84 police and fire stations, animal shelters, libraries and Zoo exhibits, more than 100 park



Chief Deputy City Engineer Bradley M. Smith holds the clock plaque presented by Public Works as a token of their appreciation.

projects, and the currently under construction Police Administration Building, and has been responsible for putting together the budgets and schedules for the bond measure proposals that were passed by a two-thirds vote by Los Angeles citizens; and

"Whereas, Brad led the efforts to develop a single, Web-based tool for tracking the status of the Bureau's 600 plus projects; and

"Whereas, Brad is recognized for loyalty and hard work, congeniality, creativity and professionalism; and, after retirement, it is to be expected that Brad will continue to handcraft the best golf clubs known to any golfer this side of St. Andrew's.

Now, therefore be it resolved that by adoption of this resolution, that the City of Los Angeles commends Bradley M. Smith for his outstanding work for the City and extends to him and his family the best wishes for a long, and enjoyable retirement."

Congratulations, Brad! The Club hopes you're having a great retirement.

And the Club thanks Beverly Pleasant for her assistance.

## Attention

**City Mothers, Fathers, Sons, Daughters:**

*Do you keep your City careers "all in the family?"*

*Are you a parent and child team ... who both work for the City? We'd love to feature you in upcoming issues!*

*If you are part of a mother and son/daughter team who works for the City, we'd like to talk to you for our annual and popular Mother's Day feature.*

*Same thing with Dads and sons and daughters who work for the City - you could be featured in an Alive! story for Father's Day.*

Let us know (including your contact information), and we'll get back to you:  
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



## HOT CLUB OFFER!!



# Dodgers Deals

VERSUS	DATE	SPECIAL NIGHT
San Diego Padres	Fri: 4/11	(Mini Helmet Radio Giveaway)
New York Mets	Mon: 5/5	
ST. Louis Cardinals	Fri: 5/23	(Fireworks Night)
Chicago Cubs	Fri: 6/6	
Chicago White Sox	Thur: 6/26	
Florida Marlins	Sat: 7/12	(Fireworks Night)
Washington Nationals	Sun: 7/27	(Autograph Night)
Arizona Diamondbacks	Sun: 8/3	(Dodger Build-A-Bear Night)
Philadelphia Phillies	Thur: 8/14	
San Francisco Giants	Sun: 9/21	(Fan Appreciation Day)
San Diego Padres	Thur: 9/25	(Team Photo Calendar)

**All tickets are FIELD LEVEL and are normally \$50 Club Price \$27**

*This offer is only good through the Club and there is a limited amount available so act now!*

To take advantage of this great deal, call the Ticket Guy on the Ticket Hotline today!

**(888) 777-1744**

**www.cityemployeesclub.com**



Congratulations to the Perfect Attendance Award Recipients, pictured with (at left) Alice Goff, President of Local 3090, AFSCME.



With a Certificate of Recognition from Councilman Dennis Zine's office were, from left: Regino Sarabia; Cliff Ruff, Chief of Staff for Councilman Dennis Zine; and Kevin Ward, Club Member.



Receiving the Dedicated Team Member Award was Napoleon Fuller, Club Member (center), with Alice Goff, President of Local 3090, AFSCME (left) and David Pongvarin, Supervisor.



Receiving the Exemplary Employee Award was Gustavo Cortes Jr., Club Member (center) with Alice Goff, President of Local 3090, AFSCME (left) and David Pongvarin, Supervisor.



Sonissa Norman, Messenger Clerk and Club Member, proudly holds her digital camera donated by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles.



Receiving the Outstanding Customer Service Award was Jacobi Patterson, Club Member (center), with Alice Goff, President of Local 3090, AFSCME (left) and David Pongvarin, Supervisor.

# Mail Services Appreciation

## ■ Mail Services says thanks to employees with a luncheon.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

**GENERAL SERVICES** — Mail Services held its sixth annual employee appreciation luncheon Jan. 24 in the Tom Bradley Room atop City Hall.

Forty-three percent of the entire division's employees received perfect attendance certificates.

The first-year Perfect Attendance recipients were: Terry Brummund, Peggy Moore and Terra Jones. Second-year recipients were David Pongvarin and David Meraz. The third-year recipient was Napoleon Fuller III. The five-year recipient was Jack Callies, and the sixth-year recipients were Michael Hammersley and Randy Gordon.

The Dedicated Team Member Award went to Napoleon Fuller III; the Outstanding Customer Service Award went to Jacobi Patterson; and the

Exemplary Employee Award went to Gustavo Cortes Jr.

Opening remarks were delivered by Melody McCormick, Director, Facilities Management. The Welcome Remarks were by Aram Salmasi, Mail Services Division Manager; Tony M. Royster, Assistant General Manager; and Alvin Y. Blain, General Manager.

An in memoriam tribute was given in honor of James Owsley.

The Club donated gift items as part of the recognition awards.

The Club congratulations to the entire Mail Services Division: Jeannette Arnold-Lindley; Ernest Bernal; Rick Brown; Terry Brummund; Jack Callies; Maria Cibrario; Gustavo Cortes Jr.; Napoleon Fuller III; Randy Gordon; Ersalyn (Lyn) Green; Michael Hairston; Steven Hesse; Terra Jones; Timothy Lamb; Ying (Ken) Mak; David Meraz; Margaret (Peggy) Moore; Brenda Nichols; Sonissa Norman; Jacobi Patterson; David Pongvarin; Esperanza (Espie) Reynoso; Mary Ann Ruiz; Aram Salmasi; Regino (Reggie) Sarabia; Cindy Serrano; Angelia (Angie) Stovall; and Kevin Ward.



From left: Rick Brown, Delivery Driver, 2 years; Chi Lam, Secretary, 3 years, Club Member; and Jacobi Patterson, Delivery Driver, 5 years, Club Member.



From left: Tony Royster, Assistant General Manager, Club Member; Kevin Ward, Messenger Clerk, 13 years, Club Member; Espie Reynoso, Messenger Clerk, 8 years; Regino Sarabia, Messenger Clerk, 4 years; and Napoleon Fuller, Delivery Driver, 6 years, Club Member.



From left: Ernie Bernal, Delivery Driver I, 6 years, Club Member; Timothy Lamb, Delivery Driver I, 3 years; and Gus Cortes Jr., Delivery Driver I, 2 years, Club Member.



Ken Mak, Clerk, 8 years; and Angelia Gray-Stovall, Principal Clerk, 13 years, Club Member.



From left: Michael Hairston, Delivery Driver, 3 years, Club Member; Jeannette Arnold-Lindley, Chief Clerk, 28 years; Michael Hammersley, Delivery Driver, 7.5 years; and Jack Callies, Delivery Driver, 10 years.



From left: Peggy Moore, Messenger Clerk, 16 years, Club Member; and Brenda Nichols, Messenger Clerk, 21 years, Club Member.



From left: Mary Ann Ruiz, Clerk, 4 years; Randy Gordon, Clerk, 19 years, Club Member; and Alvin Blain, General Manager, Club Member.



From left: Rafael Gonzalez, Assistant Director, Office of the Mayor; Sonissa Norman, Messenger Clerk, 1 year, Club Member; Cindy Serrano, Delivery Driver I, 2 years, Club Member; and David Paschal, Assistant General Manager, Property Management.



From left: Terry Brummund, Delivery Driver, 29 years; David Meraz, Delivery Driver II, 13 years; and David Pongvarin, Delivery Driver III, 8 years.

# Baker to Vegas: Training for the Big Race



Off they go as part of a training exercise.



Anita Whited, Sr. PSR I, Club Member and Team Captain.

## ■ Training continues in preparation for the annual Baker to Vegas relay, an on-foot relay race for safety officers.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor; Photos by Arlene Herrero and C.T. Feng, LAPD

**POLICE DEPT.** — Training is in full swing for this month's 24th annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup, scheduled for April 19-20.

The annual Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay was created and is produced by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club (LAP-DRAAC). The Club is grateful for their leadership in this event.

Hundreds of teams now compete in the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay, which challenges teams of runners to race (on foot) from Baker, Calif., to Las Vegas. It was founded by Los Angeles Police Officers Chuck Foote and Larry Moore in 1984 with the continuous financial support of LAPRAAC. It began with 19 teams composed of law enforcement officers who faced the harsh Mojave Desert to prove which team was up to the "challenge" and would come away the winner of the Challenge Cup.

The race has become the largest law enforcement athletic event of its kind worldwide. Participation includes 10,000 law enforcement personnel of all ranks and agencies including the LAPD, the Sheriff's Dept., federal agencies, United States military, the

Chief of Police, Department heads, agents in charge, and special VIP guests, celebrities, dignitaries, family members, race sponsors, press and media.

*Alive!* checked in with two teams that the Club is sponsoring, the LAPD Communications team, and the Port Police.

### LAPD Communications

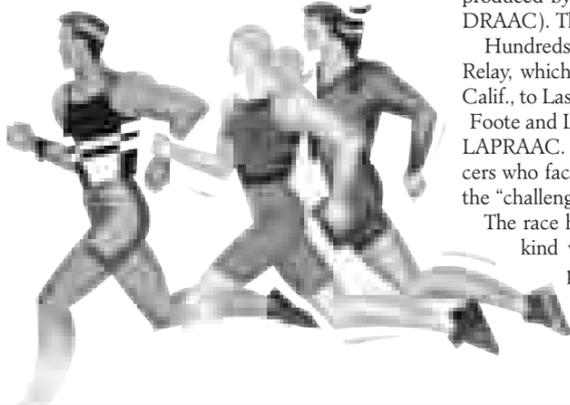
*Alive!* spoke with Anita Whited, LAPD Communications and Baker to Vegas team captain. Here's her report:

"This is my fifth year as team captain," Anita began. "Last month I appointed Berta Ugas as my co-captain, because she is my glue, picking up pieces and keeping me on track, and ensuring that what needs to get done, gets done!"

"Our goal this year is to bring home mug no. 5 and to stay under 100 [of the more than 200 teams that compete]. The better we get, which we have gotten better each year, it gets more and more challenging. You get into a league where the real athletes live, and now this year with 245 teams, it just got tougher.

"The team spirit motivates me. This race takes so much heart, determination and self discipline. For a team of 55 to 65 each year to understand what it takes and to succeed is tremendous. I love the team effort, everyone working together. The people on this team inspire and motivate me for sure.

"Ninety percent of the team is comprised of return runners. We have



## BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS



Ricardo Lopez, PSR II, Club Member, and Anita Whited, Sr. PSR I, Team Captain, Club Member, push each other along.



Gricelda Aceves, PSR II, Club Member.



C.T. Feng, PSR III, Club Member, is all smiles despite the heat.



Maria Coronado, PSR II, Club Member, is a four-year participant with her eyes on leg 14 of the course.



Carlos Mejia, PSR II, Club Member, is a seventh-year participant with his eyes on leg 6.



Way to go Gricelda (Aceves) ... swing those arms.



Debbie Ramsey, PSR III.



Autumn Kohoutek, PSR II, is a new participant hoping for "an easy leg."



The LAPD Communications Team trains at the Rose Bowl.



Ricardo Lopez, PSR II, Club Member, is back for his second year and is ready for any leg of the course that he is assigned to.



Sgt. Gregory Hoyt.



Angelina Ortega, PSR III.



Capt. Al Rosario, Club Member, is a second-year participant and leads this running pack.



Port Police Officer Alex Castillo, Baker to Vegas Team Co-Captain and Club Member.



Slow and steady wins the race!



Off they go, as they train for the Baker to Vegas race.



Run, Officer Cobos -- someone is sneaking close behind you.



Follow the leader.



Their training regimen pushes the team through the Cabrillo Aquarium.



Pushing hard towards the finish line!



Capt. Al Rosario, Club Member, second-year participant, looks to improve his time.

# BAKER TO VEGAS BAKER TO VEGAS

four new members. My advice to new runners is to stay consistent to avoid injury; do not increase your weekly mileage too quickly. Most importantly, get fit for a pair of running shoes! Be patient; it takes time to become a stronger, faster runner. If you stay consistent you will improve and you'll be injury free.

"This year as every year, I'm looking forward to seeing my team out there on the race course, doing what they've been preparing to do since last year. It truly fills my heart with so much pride. I am so proud of each and every one of them. This is not an easy thing that they have entered into; they know it and they show up with commitment and heart. It's so wonderful!

"My least favorite part of this event is waiting Sunday evening outside the war room for the results to be posted. Talk about nerves, stress, fear ... wow! I think I get more of an emotional cardiovascular workout at that moment, than running my leg in the race.

"I continue to request that the City Employees Club be our sponsor, because every interaction and every business transaction, every feeling about the Club, is pure. When I deal with the Club I deal with honest, kind, sincere people and that is so very important. The customer service is great, and as a partner there is no doubt that they are on our side. I know that they have our best interests at heart.

"There are so many people to thank for our success. This race does not happen without hundreds of people behind us, literally. All the people who support, organize and work the fundraisers; the people in the front office, approving our functions, training, fundraisers etc. and sign checks for us; the people who take it upon themselves to help me distribute Baker to Vegas gear that has been purchased by the PSRs on every watch; the people who stay behind and work the floor while we are doing what needs to get done for this race, not to mention when we're away on race weekend. The list goes on and on. So thank you to everyone for your support. We do this to grow as individuals, and also for the division, so each year in the world of athletes and champions we can hold our heads a little higher each year, all of us."

Thanks to Anita, Marisol Vielma and CT Feng for their assistance.

## Port Police

*Alive!* interviewed Port Police Officer and Club Member Alex Castillo about the Port Police Baker to Vegas Team's training and preparation for the big race.

"Lt. Michael Kettelkamp is the overall captain of the team, and I am the co-captain.

"Our team goal is to shave off time, to get no penalties, and to win a mug. The motivation comes from being proud of working for such a professional organization like the Los Angeles Port Police and the support I receive from the command staff and all the other officers.

"The surprising thing of last year was that we were able to run the challenge relay cup for the first time and not receive any penalties or have anyone drop out.

"I would say 50 percent of our runners are returning this year. My advice to new runners is train, train, train, because it will get nasty.

"We're looking forward to being able to represent our department in Baker to Vegas for a second year in a row, this time in a new category (150 sworn employees or under) because we have hired a lot of new Port Police officers. The least favorite would be organizing, fundraising and getting our team squared away for the big day.

"Special thanks go to Lt. Michael Kettelkamp and Officer Rudy Meza for getting all the logistics and intelligence for Baker to Vegas. Special thanks to The Los Angeles Port Police Command Staff for supporting this event. And special thanks to the runners and support staff who will represent our agency."

Thanks, Alex, and good luck from the Club!



C.T. Feng, PSR III, Club Member, 7-year participant, who hopes to run the shortest leg of the course.



Lourdes Veras, PSR II



PSR IIs Eddie Gomez and Susan Reynoso.



Quincy Mirage, PSR II.



Emiko Uyeda, PSR II, second-year participant.



Gloria Martinez, PSR II, another newcomer to the team, is willing to run "wherever Anita needs me."



Sharon Dormitorio, PSR II, second-year participant, is asking for peace and leg 10 or leg 11 of the race.



# Coloring with Lupe!

The *Alive!*  
Children's Coloring  
Contest

**WIN**

**4 free tickets to LEGOLAND**

An award package will be given for each age group:

- \* Ages 5 and under
- \* Ages 6 to 7
- \* Ages 8 to 10

Color this fun picture, have an adult send it in, and you could win four free tickets to the amusement park of your choice!

Compiled by Lupe Medina,  
Administrative Services Representative

We want to know about you! Tell us a little about yourself:

Your name \_\_\_\_\_ How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_

When is your birthday? \_\_\_\_\_ What is your favorite television show? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite snack? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the first name of your best friend? \_\_\_\_\_

What amusement park do you want to go to, and why?: \_\_\_\_\_

For parents/guardian to complete:

Name of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Job title and department with the City: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's address/state/zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit to:**

Club Coloring Contest  
City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
World Trade Center  
350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

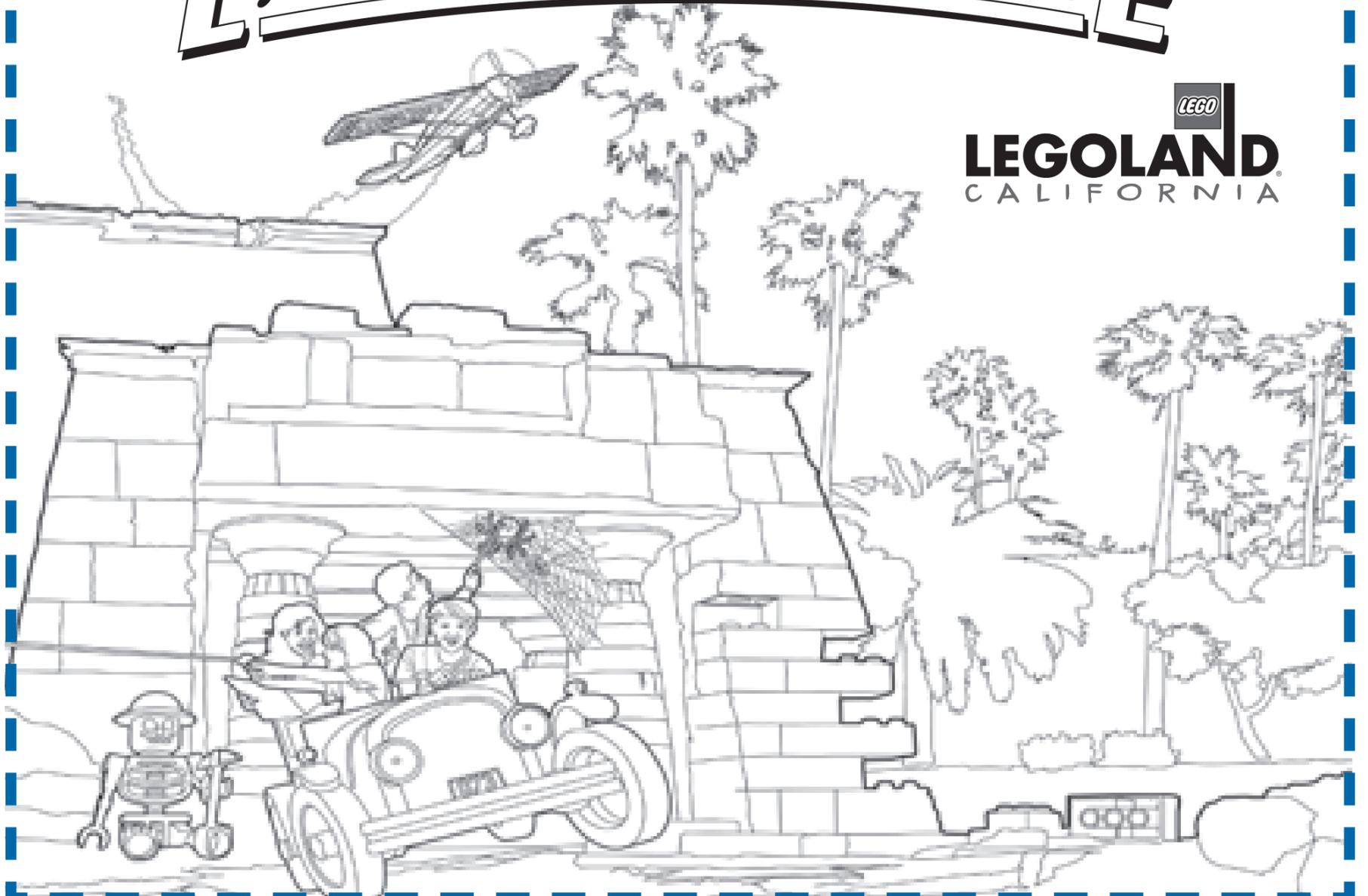
Deadline for submission:

**May 13, 2008**

The Club will do everything it can to gather all the submissions, but it cannot be responsible for lost or misdirected mail.

Good luck, and have fun!

# LAND OF ADVENTURE





# Club Store to Move Closer to You

■ The Club Store and other services are moving to within walking distance of thousands of Club Members who work downtown.



Members of the Club's leadership team work on logistics at the new Club Store space. They are (clockwise, from top): Navin Cotton, the Ticket Guy; Michael Anderson, IT Manager; Leigh Thompson, Controller; Cecilia Talbot, Claims Administrator; John Hawkins, CEO; Angel Gomez, Member Service Manager; and Robert Larios, Director of Communications and Marketing.

**CLUB HEADQUARTERS** — The challenge of getting to the Club Store for all your ticket needs will be a thing of the past for thousands of Club Members as of May 1 or thereabouts. For that's when the Club will move its growing Club Store to a more central – and pedestrian-friendly – location downtown.

The new location is at 120 W. Second St., between Spring and Main Streets.

"We are really excited about moving the Club Store to a better location for our downtown Club Members," said John Hawkins, Club CEO. "We are all about you, our members. We want to make your lives easier and better, and this is a big step toward doing a better job of it."

The new location is expected to open on May 1. The previous Club Store in Club Headquarters in the World Trade Center will close at that time; all Store activities will move to the new location.

Some administrative functions will remain at the World Trade Center office, but all people-to-people services will move to the new location. That includes discount tickets, all the great Club Merchandise, interaction with your Club Counselors, and insurance sales.

"The Store has grown by leaps and bounds over the last three years," said Navin Cotton, the Club's Ticket Guy. "It has grown so large and so busy that it deserved its own space. Here it is, and it's great."

The Club has been looking for a better place for its Club Store for more than a year, Hawkins said. "And we found what we think is perfect – the right size, and the right location, being so close to so many Club Members downtown. And the new Parker Center is rising across the street."

Transportation's headquarters in the new Caltrans building is right around the corner, and there are many other City offices within walking distance of the new location.

"We'll be up and running just as soon as we

can," Hawkins said. "Look for news of a grand opening after we have everything the way we want it. Everyone will be invited! After all, it's to celebrate your lives. It's for you."

More details will be in future *Alive!* issues.

## The Club Store Is Moving!



**Address:** 120 W. Second St., between Spring and Hill Streets (across from the new Parker Center, which is under construction)

**Phone Number:** Will not change (888 777-1744)

**Effective Date:** May 1

**Services offered:**

- Ticket Discounts
- Club Merchandise
- Club Counselor Headquarters (reach your Club Counselor here)
- Insurance Services, including buying insurance, claims and other account activity.

**Note:** The Store is moving. The current Club Store in the World Trade Center will close at the same time, and no Store services will be available in the World Trade Center office.

**LEGO**

# LEGOLAND

CALIFORNIA

## SAVE UP TO \$19

### on one-day admission!

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LAND OF ADVENTURE



The LAPD Irish Police Officer of the Year, Lt. Greg McManus.



The LAFD's Irish Fireman of the Year, Capt. Steve Norris.



Councilwoman Jan Perry, Club Member, waves from the back of this stagecoach float.



Good-sized crowds attended this year's parade.



Actor Robert Patrick.



Councilman and Club Member Tom LaBonge welcomes the crowd on the warm afternoon.



Councilman Bernard Parks.



You can't have a St. Paddy's Day Parade without Scottish bagpipers!



Actor Dan Haggerty.



Irish Honorary Consul Finbar Hill.

# Green Day

■ **Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade and party afterward draw big crowds with great weather, raucous music.**

REC AND PARKS — Warm sunshine, VIPs and strong Celtic rock by a nationally known act said *Cead Mile Failte – a Hundred Thousand Welcomes*, in the Irish language – to the big crowds who attended the City's annual St. Patrick's Day parade and party afterward in Pershing Square March 17.

Dozens of floats, vintage cars, marching bands, City VIPs and equestrian units marched down the parade route, starting at Olvera Street and ending at Pershing Square.

Pershing Square was crowded with lunchtime revelers and Celtic rock fans dancing to the Young Dubliners, a local group with a national fan base.

Thanks to Rec and Parks for producing the afternoon party; the Fire and Police Depts. for their participation; the Council offices for their cooperation; Transportation, for its safety officers; Public Works, for its Street Services cleanup effort; and all the City participants.



Former L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan.



Actor Perry King.



The LAPD Emerald Society "opens" for the Celtic rock band, the Young Dubliners.



The LAPD patrol on bicycle and cool motorized patrol cart.



Councilman Dennis Zine.



The Young Dubliners rock the house.



LAFD Chief Douglas Barry.



The LAPD's Emerald Society pipe and drum outfit.



North Park High School Marching Band, from Pico Rivera.



An equestrian unit.



A great place to observe the parade was from the top of an LAFD rig.

# Shaving and Sharing

■ **St. Baldrick's raises money for children's cancer research.**

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor;  
Photos by Arlene Herrero and Cathy Sotos

**FIRE, POLICE DEPTS.** — The LAFD and LAPD's annual participation in the national St. Baldrick's fundraiser took place March 15 at Fire Station 89. People raise pledges in exchange for having their heads shaved. The money raised goes to assist research in the fight against children's cancer. In eight years, events have taken place in 18 countries and 46 US states, raising more than \$34 million and shaving more than 46,000 heads, according to the St. Baldrick's Website.

— Continued next page —

Shaved by Ron Zurawski of Beachcomber Barbershop, a third-year volunteer.

**BEFORE**



From left: Officer Edward Torres, Sgt. Joe Tafoya, Matthew Jedinak and Senior Lead Officer Albert Jedinak.

**AFTER**



Senior Lead Officer Albert Jedinak, Sgt. Joe Tafoya, Matthew Jedinak and Officer Edward Torres.





Firefighter Ryan Umali, Fire Station 89.



Rick Koval, P III, LAPD Hollywood Vice.



Chase Taylor, 8, son of Firefighter Mike Taylor.



Tribute to Ryan Compton, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia.



Cancer survivor Will shaves the head of his dad, Lt. Greg Doyle, Club Member.



Deby Herdrich, PSR II, Club Member, shaves PSR II Celeste Young, Club Member.



From left: Dorothy Cun, Management Analyst; Paul Russo, PSR II; and Jennifer Chavis, PSR II.



The Wasserman children with the LAFD fire dog and Firefighter Ryan Penrod.



Paul Russo, PSR II, shows off his Mohawk.



Looks like the boys got their heads shaved while the girls kept all their hair! From left: Mark, 3, and first-time shavee; his dad, Sgt. II Craig Valenzuela; Sarah, 21 months; and Mom, Janet.



Patrick Merrin, P III, LAPD Hollywood Vice.



Battalion Chief Charles Butler, Fire Station 60, a first-time participant, gets his head shaved by volunteer Rosie Bowman.



Nick III shaves his dad's hair, P2 Nich Abbinanti Jr. from LAPD 21st Station.



Best friends Nick Abbinanti III and Hasan Baquar are shaved together.



PSR II Deby Herdrich, Club Member, shaves Axel Mannoury, P III, Foothill Station.



Andy Carter, Heavy Equipment Operator, Fire Station 88, was a second-year participant being shaved by Debbie.



Dad Wayne Schuetz, Firefighter at Station 84, hold his son, Ethan, as he is shaved by PSR II Deby Herdrich, Club Member.



Senior Lead Officer Julian Almaraz, Club Member, has his head shaved by his daughter, Briana.

# Shaving and Sharing



Shawnie Livera, PSR, Club Member, is still smiling while most of her hair is gone.

The goal of the local fundraiser was \$50,000. So far they've raised \$35,887.75 and counting.

Some 137 brave people shaved and were shaved at the event March 15. The shaving began with help from Sally Beauty Supply. There was a free pancake breakfast, sponsored by International house of Pancakes, and plenty of Starbucks coffee and Monster Energy Drink.

Also on hand was Providence Blood donations; National Marrow Donor Program; Childwatch Registration; and the LAFD Fire Hogs and Fire Rods.

The City Employees Club participated for the fourth consecutive year.

There was a silent auction including a U.S. Women's Soccer team autographed jersey and former U.S. Men's Soccer Team goalie Kasey Keller's game jerseys, with all proceed to benefit St. Baldricks.

Important guests included Capt. Sharyn Buck and Councilmembers Dennis Zine and Wendy Greuel.

**Congratulations to all participants.**





Julie Taylor, PII, Mission, shaves Mike Taylor.



Busy at the pancake breakfast, from left: Lee Hazelquist, Apparatus Operator, Fire Station 89; Kevin Clarke, Firefighter, Fire Station 89; and Henry Amparan, Captain III, Fire Station 89, Club Member.



From left: Danny Wu, Firefighter, Event Organizer; Councilwoman Wendy Greuel; and Lt. Greg Doyle, Club Member.



Dean Comer, LAFD Paramedic, Fire Station 78.



Ronnie shaves Police Services Representative Shawnie Livera, Club Member.



Heather Furman, Simi Valley PD, shaves Engineer David Fernimen from Fire Station 51.



From left: Garrett, 11; Curt Wassarman, LAFD Paramedic, Fire Station 112; and Gage, 4, Garrett and Curt have had their heads shaved for five consecutive years.



Mark, three-year-old, gets his own haircut to match his dad, Sgt. II Craig Valenzuela.



Sgt. II Craig Valenzuela, LAPD Chief of Staff.



Matthew Ethridge, PII, North Hollywood, gets his head shaved by Deby Herdrich, PSR II, Club Member, while Capt. Sharyn Buck, North Hollywood, looks on.



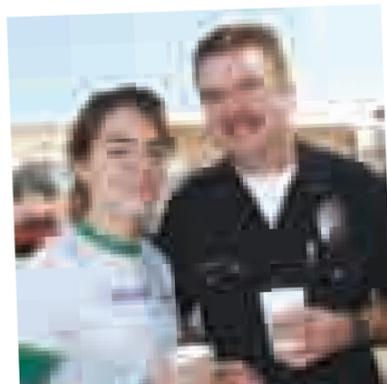
Matthew Williams, 14, third-time participant and son of LAFD Paramedic Todd Williams at Fire Station 82.



LA City Fire Explorer Joseph Smith is shaved for the first time by Ron Zurawski of Beachcomber Barbershop, a third-year volunteer.



Sr. Lead Officer Michelle Rodriguez, Foothill, gives Sr. Lead Officer Julian Almaraz, Club Member, his very own Mohawk.



Lt. Grey Doyle, Event Organizer, Club Member, and his daughter, Nina.



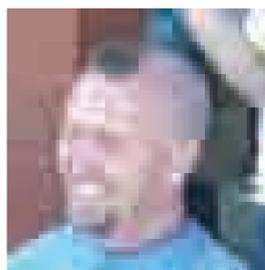
On the hot seat are Councilman Dennis Zine, Club Member, and Councilwoman Wendy Greuel.



LAFD Paramedic Curt Wassarman, a fifth-year participant, Fire Station 112.



LAFD Paramedic Brent Dalton, Fire Station 75.



Randy Carr, fiancé of PSR II Nicole Salls, Club Member.



From left: Julian Almaraz, Sr. Lead Officer, Foothill Station, Club Member; Michelle Rodriguez, Sr. Lead Officer, Foothill Station; LAFD Engineer David Fernimen; and Johnny Walker, Sr. Lead Officer Foothill Station.



Theresa Bui, PSR II, Club Member, shaves Sgt. Anthony Azevedo, Foothill Station, Club Member.



Fire Engineer Sean Kennedy, Station 71, has his head shaved by Kristi Costin, five-year volunteer, in honor of Rocco Escobar.







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## Haven House

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

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

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

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

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- Assistance with finding employment
- Court and social services advocacy
- Assistance with getting welfare
- Legal assistance (TRO's etc.)
- Medical Services

For Retired Club Members



# The Best Years

## City Retiree Associations:

### DWP Retirees Association



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

### Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association



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

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



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

### Change of Address?

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

### Have News About Yourself?

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

## Upcoming Events:

- April 10: General Membership Meeting at Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center. Lunch at noon, meeting at 1 p.m.
- June 4: 30th annual Golf Classic at Alhambra Golf Course.
- Aug. 7: Annual Picnic at 11:30 a.m. at Grace E. Simons Lodge.
- Oct. 16: Annual Corp. Meeting and Elections at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center. Lunch at noon, meeting at 1 p.m.
- Dec. 4: Christmas Party at noon at Grace E. Simons Lodge.

For reservations to above meetings and lunches, RSVP to (800) 678-4145, extension 701.

## RLACEI:

# Payroll Checks With No Postage Re-Sent



By Phil Skarin,  
RLACEI Publicity Chair

### President Ed Harding reports:



Ed Harding

"March has been a busy month, with reelection campaigns for City Councilmembers. One is for a terrific Councilwoman and Club Member, Janice Hahn, and the other is for Councilman Ed Reyes. Both are good friends of ours, and we ask that you vote for them. Americo Garza attended an Ed Reyes function, and asked for his support on the increase of our burial fee that has been before a Council committee for a long time.

"Hal Danowitz, our Secretary, and I met with Dolores and Vince Foley, who

head the Retired DWP Employees Association; and Robin Welborn, President, and Lee Kebler, Director, of the Retired Fire and Police Employees Association. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Survivor Benefit Purchase Program (benefits for spouses married after retirement) that we both are interested in. The Fire and Police Program is scheduled to be placed on the March 2009 ballot.

"We also discussed the plan to merge the Fire and Police and LACERS funds and put them under our management. Of course we are against this. We also discussed the problem with Medicare for LACERS retirees.

"Hal Danowitz said that these meetings

are helpful in that they allow us to exchange information and ideas on how to maintain and increase the benefits to all our retirees.

Don't forget our General Membership Meeting April 10 at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Citizens Center. Lunch is at noon if you have called one of the officers for a reservation a week ahead, and the meeting is at 1 p.m.

"Late news: Bob Wilkinson, Director & First Vice President, has resigned from the Board because of health problems. The Board voted to make him an honorary member of the Board, and appointed Michael Karsch, a Director, to replace him. Ken Spiker was elected First Vice President, and Tom Stemmock was elected Second Vice President."

### Legislative Update:



Ken Spiker

"Our service provider in Chicago, the company that prints LACERS checks, made a mistake. The January 2008 checks for 1,484 retirees were mailed without postage. When the

error was discovered, the company printed duplicate checks and mailed them with proper postage. However, payment was stopped on the first issue.

"We have been informed that corrections have been taken to ensure that this doesn't happen again. Any retiree who incurred an unexpected expense, as a result of this error, is entitled to a reimbursement. You should notify the LACERS Call Center, which will

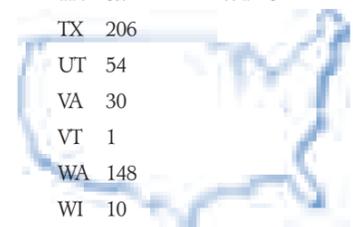
forward your claim to the vendor for reimbursement.

"Since this is not the first error by the company, the Board of Directors will consider issuing an RFP for a different company to provide these services."

Where We Live: Ever wonder where RLACEI members live? Here's a list of the states where the payments went for the December 2007 payroll:

### State & Count

AK 6	FL 80	KY 14	MS 32	NV 405	SD 8	WV 2
AL 26	GA 68	LA 62	MT 24	NY 18	TN 32	WY 3
AR 43	HI 52	MA 8	NC 41	OH 23	TX 206	
AZ 265	IA 16	MD 11	ND 3	OK 46	UT 54	
CA 12,857	ID 56	ME 1	NE 10	OR 181	VA 30	
CO 64	IL 25	MI 26	NH 1	PA 12	VT 1	
DC 4	IN 12	MN 14	NJ 9	PR 1	WA 148	
DE 2	KS 20	MO 46	NM 52	SC 21	WI 10	



### RLACEI Website

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

### Contact LACERS

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

## The Best Years

ADVENTURES  
with HAL!

"Harry" and "Pillow" at the water hole.

By Hal Danowitz,  
Secretary, RLACEI

## Retiree Hotlines

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

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

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

• Edward Harding	Ext. 703
• Phil Skarin	Ext. 709
• Robert Wilkinson	Ext. 704
• Jerry Bardwell	Ext. 706
• Harold Danowitz	Ext. 707
• Jack Mathews	Ext. 712
• Helen Salgado (membership)	Ext. 713
• Americo Garza	Ext. 710
• Neil Ricci	Ext. 714

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

## RLACEI:

## Officers for 2008

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

## Committee Chairpersons for 2008

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

## Directors

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



## The Rest of Zimbabwe

■ Hal and his entourage complete their trip to Africa. **Last of four parts.**

Our flight from Victoria Falls to Makalolo Plains took about 50 minutes. We were met by our guide, Owen, and driven to the camp within the Hwange (pronounced "wankie") National Park.

The park is more than 14,000 square kilometers in size, making Hwange the largest game reserve in Zimbabwe. It has been a park for 70 years and has the densest concentration of wildlife in Africa, with large herds of buffalo and elephants and all the "big five" (lion, leopard, elephant, hippo and rhino).

Makalolo Plains is a raised tented camp much like the two we had stayed in Botswana. We also used open Land Rovers for our game drives, and our guide was armed with a rifle. The camp is situated in a 78,000-acre concession (land lease) in the south part of the park; the camp has exclusive use of this area.

We were shown to our tents and then had an afternoon snack, after which we set out on an afternoon game drive. Because the camp is within a private concession, we were able to do night drives.

The camp is in a wooded area that faces a flat open plain with a number of water holes. From the veranda of our room, we could see a number of different animals at the water holes. We saw Cape buffalo, impala, zebra and a lone wildebeest that seemed to spend the whole day just lying around the water hole. The camp had nicknamed the wildebeest "Screensaver"

because it was always there.

Our first stop was a water hole that was home to two hippopotamus named "Harry" and "Pillow." Harry is an old male who is blind in one eye and had been run out of the herd by younger males. Pillow is a young male who sort of took care of Harry.

The water hole was only a short distance from the camp, but we had to drive a round-about way to reach it. As we sat there, a very large bull elephant started towards us. Our guide told us it was coming to get salt and minerals from the dirt around the water hole. These "salt licks," brought to the surface by the excavation of ants, provide the elephants with minerals and salts, making the water hole a favorite. We watched from no more than 10 yards away as the elephant used his front foot to kick up the ground and then to eat the dirt, which contains the salts and minerals. He never even gave us a look, and we got a great close up view of how he used his trunk.

After we left the water hole, we stopped to watch a large troop of baboons settle down for the night. As we watched, an argument occurred between two males. For about 10 minutes they chased each other from tree to tree, never getting close enough to inflict any damage, but they were very noisy and aggressive. For safety, the baboons sleep high up in the trees. This keeps opportunistic animals, such as lions, from having them as a midnight snack.

On the way back to camp, we ran into a pride of lions beginning their evening hunt. It was very dark, and I didn't know that we had returned to the water hole we had seen earlier. Our guide used a white light, which allowed us to see each animal. One of the lions seemed injured and was being helped by the others to make sure it could keep up. We watched for about



30 minutes and then drove back to camp.

The next morning we were up bright and early and, after a quick breakfast, we started our drive before 7 a.m. Our first stop was the water hole, and we watched a small herd of giraffes approach for their morning drink. We also spotted two jackals waiting to see if breakfast would appear. In all of our driving and walking, we saw very few remains of dead animals or even bones, unless it was a fresh kill. Everything is eaten by some animal on the food chain. As you would expect there were a lot of animal droppings, and we became experts in identifying each animal's. The easiest one to identify was the hyena, which is white from eating bones.

We saw the morning wake-up routine of the baboon troop. They came down from the trees to get a drink of water and then began the search for food. While baboons eat vegetation, they are carnivores and have been known to attack and kill leopards.

When we returned to camp, we found that during the night a leopard had killed a steenbok (a small antelope) and stored it in a tree 25 feet off the ground. For the two days we remained in the camp, the leopard returned each night to eat its kill. One evening after dinner, we were told that the leopard was hiding under one of the raised tents, and we all crept quietly to watch, but I didn't really see anything.

After lunch we decided to look for some more lions. We didn't see any, but we did get to see a large herd of elephants and almost got a charge from a large male Cape buffalo. The lone buffalo was about 30 yards from our



From left: Don, Myrna, Evelyn, Hal, Effie and Pierre.

## ADVENTURES with HAL!

Land Rover when for no reason at all it started to bellow and then charged at us. Our guide slapped the side of the Land Rover, and the buffalo turned and ran off. Owen told us this was the first time he had ever been charged by a buffalo and that, while an individual animal will be aggressive, when they are in a group they are less concerned about other animals or humans.

The next morning we were having a nature walk with Dave, the camp manager. He wanted to drive to the other side of the open plain area and then track a herd of buffalo back to the camp. It would be a walk of about 1.5 miles. In addition to Dave, we had with us Humphrey, a guide-in-training. Both Dave and Humphrey were armed. As we began our drive, we ran right into a herd of about 600 Cape buffalo. After waiting for them to cross the road in front of us, we decided to start our walk. First we were in an area with small trees and shrubs. We had to watch where we stepped to avoid the droppings and also the holes in the ground. Dave showed us a number of plants that are used by the natives for medicine, toothpaste and sunscreen, and for making rope. Before a guide is licensed, they need to be able to live off of the land and also have to have killed at least one wild animal, such as an elephant.

When we reached the edge of the plain area in front of the camp, the buffalo were spread out before us. We walked by the water hole and were surprised to see that both hippos were out of the water. This is very unusual during the day. The herd of buffalo was between the camp and us and, as we moved towards the camp, we looked for an opening through which to pass. It seemed as we moved to go around them they would move along with us. We finally were able to get around them and reach the safety of the camp.

The next day after lunch, we left on our flight to Bulawayo, Zimbabwe's second largest city, population 900,000, in the southeast. We were picked up at the airport and driven through the town going south for about an hour until we reached Camp Amalinda in the Matobo Hills. This was the first time that we had been in a



The local witch doctor.



Cape Buffalo in front of the camp.

non-tourist area of Zimbabwe, and we were stopped at a military checkpoint before we reached the lodge. Our driver knew the man in charge, and we were waved through. I asked the guide what they were looking for, and he told me they were doing safety checks on cars. I didn't bother to discuss it any more. Camp Amalinda is built among the natural granite domes. Each room is carved into huge boulders. Our shower was inside a cave. It reminded us of the Madonna Inn or *The Flintstones*.

After a quick snack, we met our guide, "Bagman," and left to see the rock paintings in the Nswatugi Cave. After a short drive, we began a seven-kilometer walk following a rocky path and then climbed up a steep track 200 meters to the cave. Our guide told us about the rock painting of giraffes, zebras, kudu and a hunting party. They are very well preserved. Excavations have revealed human bones more than 40,000 years old. We started our climb down and reached our Land Rover before it got too dark.

The one animal that we had not seen was a rhino. So the next morning I asked our guide to find them for us. The Matobos National Park is home to both the white and black rhino, and we were hoping to see them. Our guide told us that the day before he had looked for more than four hours for a rhino but did not find any. We told him that we had the highest confidence in his ability to find them for us. A few minutes after we entered the park, he spotted some tracks. We began the tracking process following the tracks and doubling back a couple of times when, after about 30 minutes, we saw three white rhinos just off the road. We were permitted to leave our vehicle and followed the guide into the brush toward the rhino. As we got close I could see that it was a large male with a female and a young calf. The guide told us that if we were charged to just step out of the way either to the right or left and let the animal pass by. They have such bad eyesight that the only way they know you are there is by smell. We were able to get within 15 feet of them before they noticed us and then they just turned and ran off. We felt very lucky to have seen them. You get an entirely different perspective of the animal when you are on the ground with it eye to eye.

Our next stop was a local tribal school. We were greeted by the assistant principal and given a tour of first- and sixth-grade classrooms. The boys and girls were all neatly dressed and were very respectful of their teachers. We were treated to songs and poems and we answered questions from the students. Evelyn and I brought with us a gross of pencils, which we gave to the teacher, and we all gave a small donation to the school principal before we left. On the way back to the Land Rover, I took some video of the students and then showed them their pictures, which was something they had not seen before. They all spoke English, which is taught and spoken widely in Zimbabwe.

We stopped at a local home to meet the tribal woman witch doctor. Her husband greeted us at the front of the compound, which contained a number of round, one-room mud huts with thatched roofs. The area was very clean and we were allowed to enter the cooking hut and look around. The witch doctor was busy



Hal on the elephant ride.



An Amalinda cabin.



On the ground with a rhino.

giving a reading to some other guests from our camp, so we had to wait a few minutes before she joined us in the yard. We sat on chairs, and she sat in front of us on a blanket as our guide explained the various things that she could do. We were then able to ask her questions. She told us that while she was able to help people, she also believed a medical doctor was sometimes necessary. It was an interesting conversation, to say the least.

At that point it began to rain; we were riding in an open vehicle, and we started to get wet. Our next stop was Malindidzimu (View of the World), where Cecil John Rhodes is buried, and we didn't want to drive there in the rain. Our guide told us not to worry and drove back to the school where the couple who had been with the witch doctor had stopped, and we switched cars. They got the open Land Rover and we got the van. Of course, they didn't know that until after we had left with the van.

The climb to the grave was a nice long walk, but the view from the top was worth the effort.

The last thing on our agenda was a ride on an elephant. Our camp had two 19-year-old male elephants that were survivors of the last culling of elephants in this area of Zimbabwe. We took about a 45-minute elephant ride and saw giraffes, ostrich and impala. I was holding on for dear life. My elephant was only interested in eating and at one point pulled up a small tree and ate it as we walked. After the ride I tipped the elephant with peanuts and a dollar. He ate the peanuts and gave the dollar to the guide.

This was a great way to end our trip. We had seen all the animals that we could have hoped to see and were able to meet some of the people. It is unusual to take a trip such as this without some problems, but I can honestly say that nothing went wrong on this trip.

In the morning, we drove to the Bulawayo Airport to catch our flight to Johannesburg on our way to our stop in London.



## RLACEI MEMBER NEWS:

**John Lemons**, Morro Bay, has shot his age in golf every year since he retired, except this year when he shot an 87, one over his age. "I'm going to look for an easier course," he said.

**John and Frances Schulz**, Wofford Heights, had both been widowed when they met, and then were married a year ago. Their love story and picture were featured in the Bakersfield *Californian* as a Valentine's Day special.

**Sam and Marie Cabibbo**, Temecula, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Feb. 1 with family and friends.

**David and Martha Thomas**, Montebello, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary June 21. They met while serving with the Peace Corps. in South America.

**Ina Mae Overman**, Arroyo Grande, writes: "I've been retired for 29 years from Engineering and Contract Ad. I have my second Shelby, a 2007 GT 500. The first was a 1968 Shelby GT 500, which was sold to Bill Herbert, Engineering, in the '70s. I'm still a car nut after all these years."

**Shirley Horton's husband of 68 years, David**, passed away Feb. 4. His World War II injuries resulted in disabilities that changed his life. Shirley was a City Librarian.

**Jane Hanson**, Hemet, writes: "Thank you for all you are doing to help others. We appreciate you."

**Bob Wilkinson**, our First Vice President, has been laid up with serious back problems. Why not send a cheer up note to him at P.O. Box 7457, Northridge, CA 91327.

RLACEI has prepared a sheet titled "**Upon the Death of a Retired City Employee**" revised November 2004. If you would like a copy, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Phil Skarin, 5301 Norwich Ave., Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910

**If you have news about yourself or other retirees** that you'd like to share, send it to Phil Skarin, or call (818) 784-0130.

The County of Los Angeles Willowbrook Senior Center is at 12915 S. Jarvis Ave., L.A., CA 90061. **They have classes** throughout the week on sewing, woodcraft, dancing, computers, etc. Call them at (310) 603-3358 for more information.

# Another Marathon for Ken

RLACEI — Ken Kochakji, Retired Traffic Officer, Transportation, completed his 17th L.A. Marathon last month. Good going, Ken!



Family members greet Ken at the Bonaventure Hotel after the marathon. From left: Ken Kochakji, Retired, Transportation; brother in law Kim Spenchian; wife, Ann Kochakji; niece, Terry Kochakji; niece, Alley Kochakji; and sister-in-law, Ann Kochakji.



Ken's official number patch.

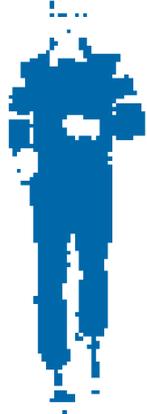


Ken runs the marathon.



Ken's medal.

# On the Move



*Alive!* catches up with Retirees who are active, involved ... *Alive!*

**Are you On the Move?**  
Write to us and tell us what you're up to! It's even better if you send us a photo. We'll print what we can! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

## 30th Annual Retiree's Invitational Golf Tournament



The 30th Annual Retired Los Angeles City Employees Invitational Golf Tournament will be held on Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course with a "Shotgun Start" at 7:30 a.m. The course is located at 630 South Almansor Street, Alhambra, CA 91801. Check-in is at 7:00 a.m. **SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!**

- The tournament is open to retired and active employees and friends. The cost is \$60 for R.L.A.C.E.I., City Club and All City Employee Benefits Service Association members (\$70 for all others) and includes green fees, carts, prizes and lunch at the Almansor Court restaurant. Lunch only is \$24.00.
- Those interested in participating must complete the reservation form and mail it with their check payable to **"R.L.A.C.E.I."** by **May 16th** to: Tom Stemnock, co-Chairman, 4040 Vineland Avenue, Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604. For more questions, call either Co-Chairman Tom Stemnock at (818) 487-6789 or Phil Skarkin at (818) 784-0130.

### 2008 Golf Tournament Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount Included \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$60.00 for R.L.A.C.E.I., City Club and A.C.E.B.S.A. Members (\$70.00 for all others)  
 Luncheon: \$24.00

**Make checks payable to R.L.A.C.E.I.**

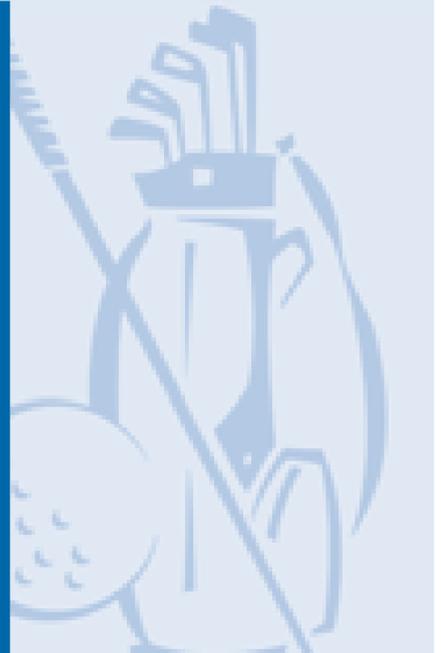
**NOTICE: SOFT SPIKES MANDATORY!**

#### FOURSOME

Name	Member R.L.A.C.E.I.	Member A.C.E.B.S.A. or City Club	Guest
1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**(check all that apply)**

Reservation deadline: Friday, May 16th. Mail completed reservation form and check to:  
 Tom Stemnock, Co-Chairman  
 4040 Vineland Avenue, Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604, (818) 487-6789



## RLACEI Golf Tournament

RLACEI — The 30th annual Retired Los Angeles City Employees Invitational Golf Tournament will be held Wed., June 4, at the Alhambra Municipal Golf Course, 630 South Almansor St., Alhambra. The event will have a "Shotgun Start" at 7:30 a.m. Soft spikes are mandatory.

The tournament is open to retired and active employees and friends. The cost is \$60 for RLACEI, City Club and all City Employee Benefits Service Association members (\$70 for all others) and includes green fees, carts, prizes and lunch at the Almansor Court restaurant. Lunch only is \$24.

Those interested in participating must complete a reservation form and mail it with their check payable to RLACEI by May 16 to: Tom Stemnock, Co-Chairman, 4040 Vineland Ave., Suite 108, Studio City, CA 91604. For any questions, call either Co-chairman Tom Stemnock at (818) 487-6789 or Phil Skarkin at (818) 784-0130.



# Retiring? Join RLACEI!

If you are retiring, you're invited to join the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI).

RLACEI is the only organization exclusively serving the interest of all Los Angeles City Retirees. Over the years we have worked diligently to improve and protect retiree benefits. All our members are active members of the City's Retirement System. Our mission is to assure a financially sound retirement system is adequately funded, so that all present and future retirees will receive the financial benefits for which they worked and are entitled. RLACEI needs the support of all retirees and we urge you to join us in protecting your benefits and making our voice heard. The dues are only \$1 a month. If you would like additional information, e-mail us at [rlacei@verizon.net](mailto:rlacei@verizon.net) or call one of our Board members at (800) 678-4145.



## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

### Writing Your Gospel

*Each of you is writing a Gospel, by the way that you live and the things that you say.  
This year is the beginning of a new chapter. It will cover*

- how you treat your neighbor*
- how you treat and respect our natural environment*
- your sense of responsibility to your family and community*
- how you practice your faith.*

*People read what you write, whether it's truthful or faulty.  
I hope that I'll be proud to add to my library,  
a copy of "The Gospel According to You."*

— Phil Skarin

## RLACEI's Toll-Free Number

RLACEI — The Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc. group has established a new toll-free helpline number that can be accessed free of charge throughout the United States.

**The number is: (800) 678-4145**

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

Edward Harding	x703	Jack Matthews	x712	Americo Garza	x710
Harold Danowitz	x707	Robert Wilkinson	x704	Neil Ricci	x714
Phil Skarin	x709	Jerry Bardwell	x706	Helen Salgado	x713

## Retiree Question of the Month

*Alive!* asked retirees...

# What do you miss most about working?

The Best Years



"Good and lasting friendships, with the coffee breaks."  
— Norma Rosen, Retired, Public Works/Engineering



"The friends I made during my 40 years."  
— Jesus D. Aceves, Public Works/Contract Administration



"My friends, and the beautiful Christmas tree in the City Hall rotunda."  
— Helen Salgado, Retired, Housing



"The long coffee breaks."  
— Lou Archer, Retired, Public Works/Contract Administration.



"People-contact."  
— Alice Wilder, Retired, Election Division



"Having a second family."  
— Leo Rosen, Retired, Public Works/Engineering



"Solving problems for Public Works Contract Administration."  
— Ben Juarez, Retired, Public Works

*Congratulations!*

# Alvin Blain Retires

■ **General Services General Manager and Club Member retires after 35 of City Service.**



Alvin Y. Blain, General Manager, General Services, and City Purchasing Agent.

**GENERAL SERVICES** — The one-time garage attendant is retiring as General Manager.

Alvin Blain, the General Manager, General Services, and longtime Club Member, retired April 1 after 35 years of City service. An official retirement party was held in his honor on March 25.

*Alive!* had trouble catching up with Alvin in mid-March because he had numerous thank-you parties to attend.

"I've been going to three parties every day," he told *Alive!*

"Yesterday was Piper Tech; where there were 168 people there, just employees. Then I went to Fleet Services, with 100. Today it's the heliport. Custodial had one for me. Every division is throwing another party. And my official one isn't until next week!"

And the feeling is mutual.

"My employees are the success of General Services. They move it forward."

He rates safety and productivity as his biggest successes. "We have made General Services a much safer place for employees, for citizens, for everybody," he said. "Our number one goal was to improve on safety. And we're number one [department] in terms of safety."

"And I also wanted to create a sense of urgency — get work done, and then follow up on it. It's all about being productive and customer service. We're doing an excellent job. I feel good about retiring, with the way everything is."

"In 35 years, we've gone from a government

operation to more like a business now. We have goals and controls. We have benchmarking. We're more productive. We're still run by elected officials. What also hasn't changed is that we want to make the City a better place for everyone.

"I'd like to see General Services keep on its current path of success. The employees have turned the department into one they are proud of.

"If I had the chance to do it all over again, I think I would do it all the same. I'm very pleased with the department, and I'm retiring on my terms."

He's looking forward to retiring, but it might be short-lived.

"I've always set up myself to have the option to sit on my front porch," he explained. "I have the option to do that, or to do something else if I want to. I will probably travel; we have an RV. Or I might go back to work. I've had lots of opportunities just drop out of the sky [recently]. But I don't know if I will take any of them. I'm retiring, so I want to be unemployed for at least a month."

"The real success of my time here was the journey, the path, the friends, the 35 years. I'm just lucky that people allowed me to be a part of their success.

"I'm so lucky I have that relationship with my employees," he said, rushing off to another party. "It is a tremendous honor to work in civil service. My employees, the people of General Services, have been the best part of this. They're the best."

**Here's a portion of the City's resolution upon his retirement:**

"Whereas, Alvin Y. Blain, General Manager, General Services (GSD), is retiring on April 1, 2008 after 35 years of service to the City; and

"Whereas, Alvin is an extraordinary and remarkable leader whose career includes unparalleled achievements and accomplishments; Alvin manages General Services policies and programs to support other offices in City government; he serves as the City's Purchasing Agent by directing the purchase, storage and distribution of supplies; he oversees the acquisition, leasing, and management of all City property; repair and maintenance operations of the City's fleet of more than 10,000 automobiles, trucks, aircraft

and equipment; parking, mail, security, custodial and maintenance services for more than 900 facilities; and operation of the City's materials testing laboratory;

"Whereas, Alvin began his career with the City on July 2, 1973 as a Garage Attendant with the LAPD, where he performed non-repair servicing of passenger vehicles, trucks, and motorcycles; and

"Whereas, in 1974 Alvin transferred to Transportation and was promoted to Equipment Mechanic, where he displayed extraordinary application to his duties, was a fast learner, cooperated well with his supervisors and fellow

employees, and displayed excellent work attitude and very high work output; and

"Whereas, in 1977 Alvin was promoted to Heavy Duty Equipment Mechanic for the Transportation, where he performed journey-level work in the maintenance and repair of construction, road maintenance and fire fighting equipment; built, installed and modified equipment for special purposes and supervised a small group of employees performing this work; he was the fastest learning mechanic and was very eager to learn and work; he received a Certificate of Commendation for his personal effort in assisting on a special task force assembled to alleviate a very serious and potential equipment problem; and

"Whereas, in 1979 Alvin transferred back to General Services and was promoted in 1981 to Equipment Repair Supervisor, where he supervised the work of senior and journey-level workers, apprentices, and helpers and engaged the maintenance and servicing of various equipment; he scheduled preventive maintenance and repair work, diagnosed equipment trouble from various records and maintained subordinates work schedules, inspected small outlying shops and was on call 24-hours a day for emergency work; and

"Whereas, in 1984 Alvin was promoted to Senior Automotive Supervisor, Airports, where he directed and coordinated the activities of a number of specialized shops engaged in the maintenance and repair of transportation and construction equipment; he developed and wrote specifications, analyzed bids and recommended purchases of new equipment and modifications; his extensive knowledge of purchasing procedures and storekeeping methods prepared him for his next career advancement; and

"Whereas, in 1984 Alvin was promoted to General Automotive Supervisor, General Services, where he was responsible for directing the activities of a large automotive maintenance and repair unit and managed the economical repair of equipment after failure has occurred; he directed a large group of employees, prepared and analyzed budget, activity and other related reports; and

"Whereas, in 1988 Alvin was promoted to Equipment Superintendent for General Services, where he provided accountability, efficient management, achievement of program goals and their effect on City operation; determined budgetary needs and submitted justification for budget requests; interacted regularly with client departments to obtain and furnish information; assigned work and appraised performance of subordinate supervisors; recommended and established divisional work standards, provided for employee development, training and safety, demonstrated excellent technical knowledge, and ensured the enforcement of divisional policies; and

"Whereas, in 1995 Alvin was promoted to Director of Fleet Services, General Services,



From left: Gary Newton, Chief Special Officer; Alvin Y. Blain, General Manager and City Purchasing Agent; and Chief William J. Bratton, LAPD.



1983: A farewell to Alvin Blain from General Services/Fleet Services Division's Sweeper Shop.



Proclamation of Earth Day in Los Angeles, from left: Dee Allen, General Manager, Environmental Affairs; Alvin Y. Blain, General Manager, General Services and City Purchasing Agent; and Jan Perry, Councilmember, Ninth District.



1981: In this Fleet Services Division Area III staff photo, Alvin Blain is in last row (eighth from the left).



Alvin Blain stands with General Services/Public Safety's Police Cadet graduates from the LAPD Academy.



Farewell from General Services/Fleet Services Division's staff at the Van Nuys Heliport, March.

where he operated and managed the largest division, with a budget of \$160 million and staffing of 500 employees; planned, organized, and coordinated the repair and maintenance of the City's fleet of automobiles, trucks, aircraft and equipment; managed operations at 30 repair facilities and supervised the development and review of maintenance schedules, repair procedures, and related cost controls; he instituted a specialized safety and training program to promote employee development and increase efficiencies; and

"Whereas, in 2001 Alvin was promoted to Assistant General Manager, General Services; planned, organized, coordinated, and directed the daily activities of the Fleet, Technical, and Fuel Services divisions with a budget of \$200 million and staffing of 600 employees. He supervised the development of a \$500 million alternative fuels infrastructure and he developed long-range and overall plans for the operations of the Fleet Services and Fuel Services divisions; he received a Quality and Productivity Commission award for delivering leading edge and cost effective customer service improvements for the City of Los Angeles; and

"Whereas, in 2004 Alvin was appointed General Manager, General Services; in this capacity, he was responsible for overseeing the management and operation of the City's third largest and most diverse department, with a budget of \$260 million and staffing of 3,000 employees and 19 different divisions that support all other City departments; his excellent leadership skills are demonstrated through the significant growth the department has experienced in the last four years with the annual budget increasing by \$71 million from \$190 million in 2004 to \$261 million in 2008; and

"Whereas, because safety is Alvin's highest priority, General Services met and surpassed the Mayor's goal of reducing Worker's Compensation costs, as well as ensuring the safety of employees, customers and the public; in 2003, General Services had 1929 employees and an Injury on Duty (IOD) usage of 66,311 hours; Alvin implemented risk management programs such as the Worksite Safety Inspection program, on-site accident review and response protocols, and the Illness and Injury Prevention Program; as a result, four years later in 2007, despite the growth in the number of General Services employees to 3,000, IOD usage went down to 36,394 hours, a reduction of 46 percent, saving the City \$1.4 million; and



General Services/Management Information Systems Division farewell party in March.

"Whereas, with his leadership, General Services received 34 Quality and Productivity Awards since 1996, and more than \$20 million in estimated cost savings and new revenue to the City; these awards were for innovations and efficiencies that includes but not limited to such: Invention of a Particulate Trap Cleaning Machine, Mobile Operating Polling Places (MOPP), Mount Lee Drive Project, Water Metering Program, Saving Time and Money by Streamlining Publishing Process and Hard Dollar Savings created by Citywide software contract; and

"Whereas, Alvin is responsible for reducing the City's dependence on fossil fuels; he crafted and implemented a vision to convert the City fleet to alternative fuel and hybrid technology; he strategically led the City to use low-sulfur fuel, made the City the first in the nation to use particulate traps six years before federal mandates, obtaining \$3.4 million in grant funds for the project; when other municipalities were purchasing electric vehicles, Alvin made a strategic decision to purchase the then less popular hybrid vehicles; he turned the City's fleet into the cleanest and

'greenest' large municipal fleet in the nation; because of his work in this very important area, he has been honored by many prestigious organizations; and

"Whereas, Alvin Y. Blain operates on a philosophy of continuous improvement and applies this philosophy to every aspect of leading GSD as one of the most dependable and innovative departments in the City; he believes in providing positive leadership and good management by instituting employee development and recognition programs to let them know that they are the reason for the department's success. His leadership style is personal and friendly and it has proven to be very effective; and

"Whereas, Alvin Y. Blain looks forward to spending time with his family and enjoying his retirement; and

"Now, therefore, be it resolved, that by the adoption of this resolution, the Mayor and the Los Angeles City Council honors and congratulates Alvin Y. Blain on his retirement as General Manager, after 35 years of excellent and outstanding service to the City of Los Angeles."

*All our best congratulations from the Club, Alvin!*



Alvin Y. Blain, General Manager, General Services and City Purchasing Agent, and Beverly Stinson Pleasant, Executive Administrative Assistant III, at General Services' 2007 holiday party.

## Alvin Y. Blain General Manager and City Purchasing Agent



**A**lvin Blain is retiring as the General Manager of the City's Department of General Services, the City's third largest department after Police and Fire. He manages 3,000 employees and an annual budget of \$385 million, which includes more than \$180 million for fleet purchasing and funding for the City's energy costs — petroleum, natural gas and water and electricity.

Under his leadership, Los Angeles became the first in the nation to test low-sulfur diesel fuel and particulate traps in 1999, and started using it six years before state and federal agencies mandated its use. When other municipalities were purchasing electric vehicles, Mr. Blain made a strategic decision to purchase the then less popular hybrid vehicles. He recognized that the electric charging technology was not standardized and would have a lot of limitations.

Since 2001, the City has made hybrid vehicles its standard for passenger sedans and currently, 74 percent of the City's passenger vehicle fleet are hybrids. More than 44 percent of the Refuse Collection Vehicle fleet and 30 percent of the Street Sweeper fleet have been converted to alternative fuels. To date, there are 1,400 alternative fueled vehicles in service, reducing the City's dependence on foreign oil by 1.5 million gallons annually.

Leveraging the City's buying power, the department is implementing an Environmentally Preferred Products Program to establish guidelines for purchasing environment-friendly products. In 2006, the City purchased more than \$24 million in recycled products. The department also contributes to the City's goal of waste diversion through recycling paper, cardboard, glass, aluminum, plastic, electronics and rechargeable batteries from City facilities. One hundred percent of materials from construction demolition are recycled and last year alone, 300 tons of construction debris was diverted.

He has been happily married for 32 years and is the father of two adult children.



Farewell party for Alvin Blain from General Services/Supply Services Division, in March.



At the General Services/Publishing Services Division open house were, from left: Michael Leighton, Director of Publishing Services; Tony M. Royster, Asst. General Manager; Alvin Y. Blain, General Manager; and Robert H. Jensen, Asst. General Manager.

# The Club Store Is Moving!

**After May 1, the Club Store is going to be a lot easier to reach. We're moving the Club Store to 120 W. Second St., between Spring and Main Streets.**

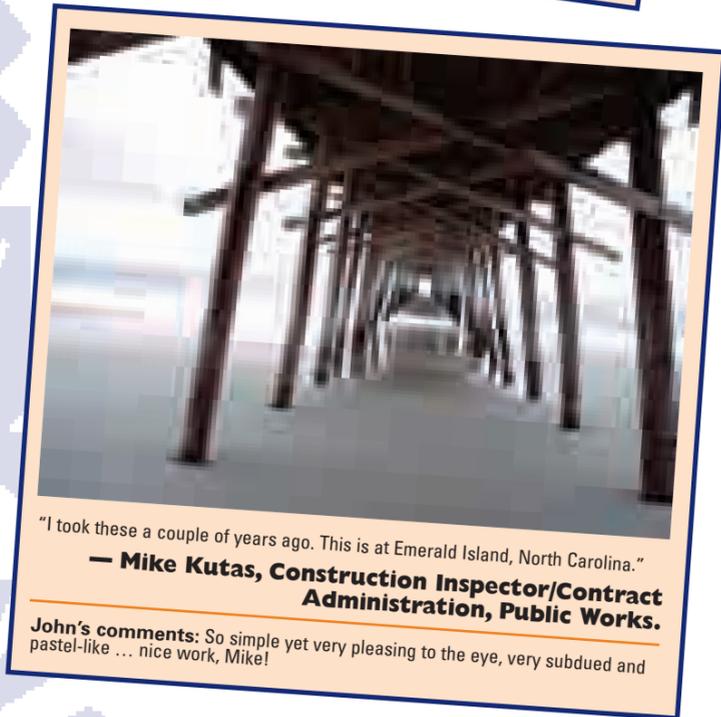
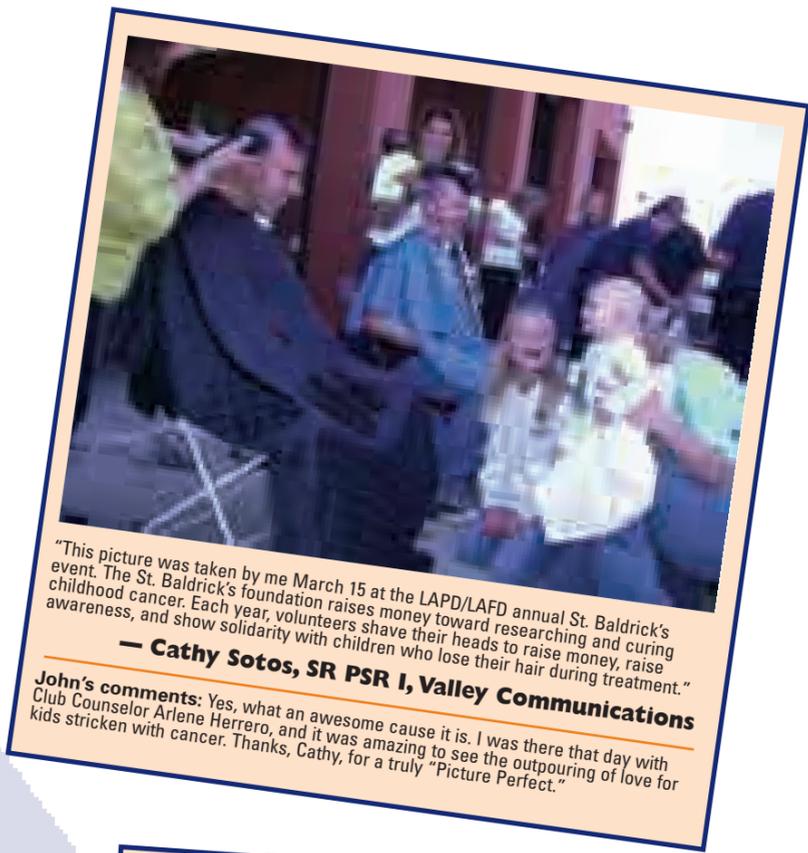
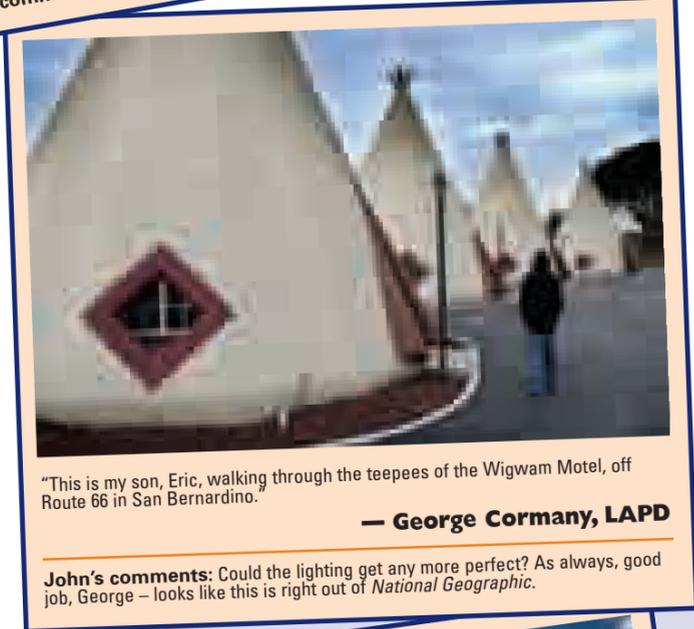
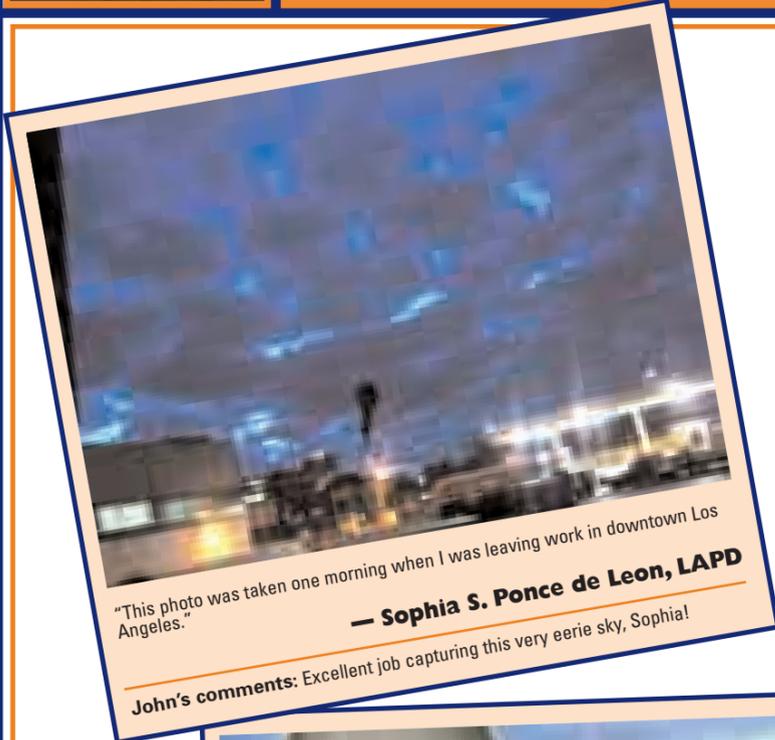
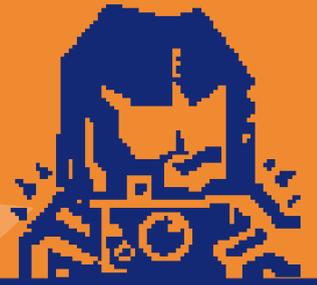
**SEE THE STORY ON PAGE 29.**



**City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
(800) 464-0452  
[www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)**



# John's Picture Perfect Contest



**For April, we have five winners!**

Start snapping today, and send us your best results! Five winners will receive a \$25 WalMart Card.

**WIN FIVE PRIZES**  
**\$25 WalMart Card**

**NEXT DEADLINE: April 15**  
 Happy Snapping!

**Runners Up:**

**Gary Simmons, James Howelett, Valerie Lockhart, Jennifer Smith, Eduardo Hernandez, Ida Torres, Thomas Starkey**

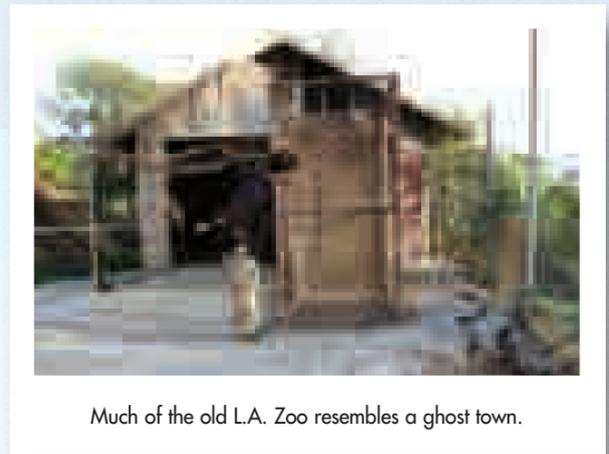
**RULES:**

- The contest is open to all Club members in good standing. Non-members are welcome to submit, but only Club members are eligible to win the monthly prize.
- If your photograph does not win, you are welcome to re-submit.
- Winners are chosen by Club staff. All decisions will be final.
- You must certify (if asked) that you indeed took the picture. No ringers!
- Photos can be submitted either on paper or digitally. Please don't send both.
- If you want your print photo returned, please write your name, address and phone number on the back of your photo.
- Photos can be of any subject matter: vacation, portraits, families, landscapes, still lifes, pets, etc. Subject matter must be appropriate for *Alive!*
- Paper prints can be mailed to: Picture Perfect Contest, *Alive!*, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071
- When you send digital photos through the Internet, please send the full, original digital file yourself, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print.
- We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!
- Digital photos optimally should be between 100K and 2 megabytes in size and may be e-mailed to: pictureperfect@cityemployeesclub.com
- The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.

# Angel's Be Alive!



Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager



Much of the old L.A. Zoo resembles a ghost town.

## Visiting the Old L.A. Zoo



There's plenty of room to relax at the old L.A. Zoo grounds.

### Hello again!

This month, we will take you on a brief historic tour of Griffith Park's original zoo.

What? I hear you saying. You can walk around the old zoo? Yep, you sure can. And you can picnic there ... and just kick back. So this month, it's not about hiking, it's about exploring and enjoying a relic of old Los Angeles in Griffith Park.

The Los Angeles Zoo came to Griffith Park in 1913. The City moved its small animal collection from Eastlake (now Lincoln) Park to a ravine near where the merry-go-round stands today. At the time, the Los Angeles Examiner hoped that Griffith Park's more natural setting would result in "healthier and more attractive" zoo animals. But there were problems right from the start. The plan was to raise \$10,000, but the zoo had to be built with only \$2,000. Even in 1913 you couldn't do very much with \$2,000. The zoo was started and it didn't even have cages for the animals; they used stockades. Various livestock, wolves, monkeys and even some cats were in stockades. A few years later, an aviary, bear pits and assorted cages (you can still see some of these today) were built.

The zoo had its share of problems; Lions were found to have glanders, a highly contagious disease. Moreover, the zoo did not have a veterinarian on site, and in February 1916 the zoo was almost closed. The Health Department found the zoo's sewage was draining into the Los Angeles River.

The zoo had its share of problems; Lions were found to have glanders, a highly contagious disease. Moreover, the zoo did not have a veterinarian on site, and in February 1916 the zoo was almost closed. The Health Department found the zoo's sewage was draining into the Los Angeles River.



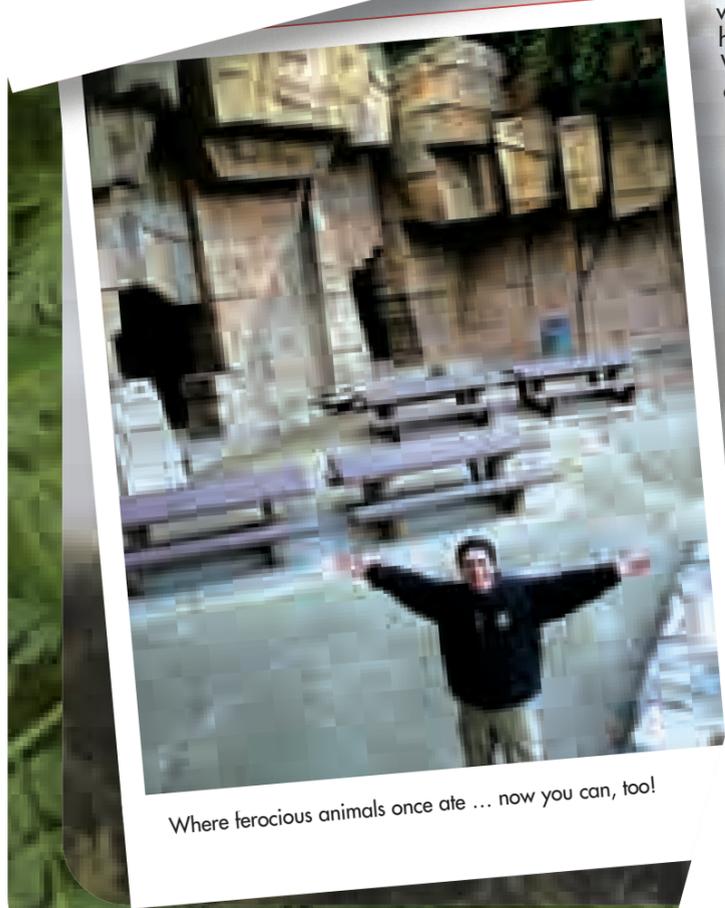
During World War I, the City Council withdrew authorization to feed beef to the zoo's meat-eating animals. Because of this, the animals were put up for sale, but no one would buy them. So, they were fed horsemeat as a substitute for beef. The results were devastating — many of the meat-eating animals, and almost all the cats, died. Yet, with all these setbacks, the zoo carried on.

By the 1950s, zoo-bashing became the norm, with politicians trying to win votes. The Los Angeles Daily News called the zoo in Griffith Park an "inadequate, ugly, poorly designed and under-financed collection of beat-up cages." Apparently, the voters agreed. In May 1958 local voters overwhelmingly approved an \$8 million bond issue to build a new zoo.

There is a lot of history in the remains of what was once the original L.A. Zoo. Take the family and enjoy a relic!

Special thanks to Michael J. Watkins, Park Maintenance Supervisor.

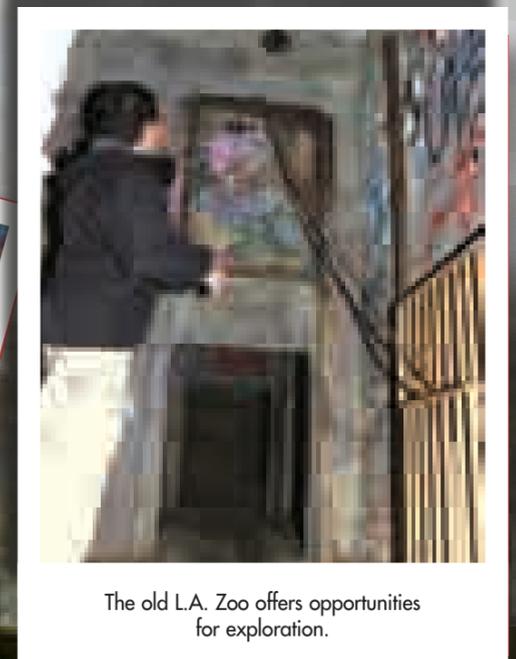
**Until next time, Be Alive! and have fun!**



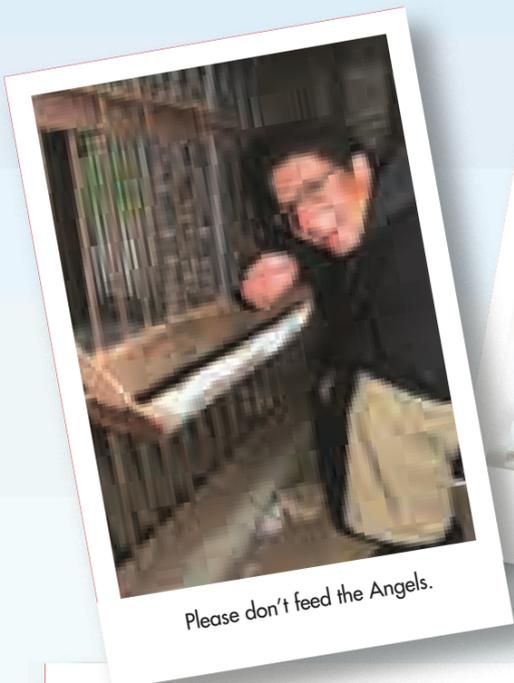
Where ferocious animals once ate ... now you can, too!



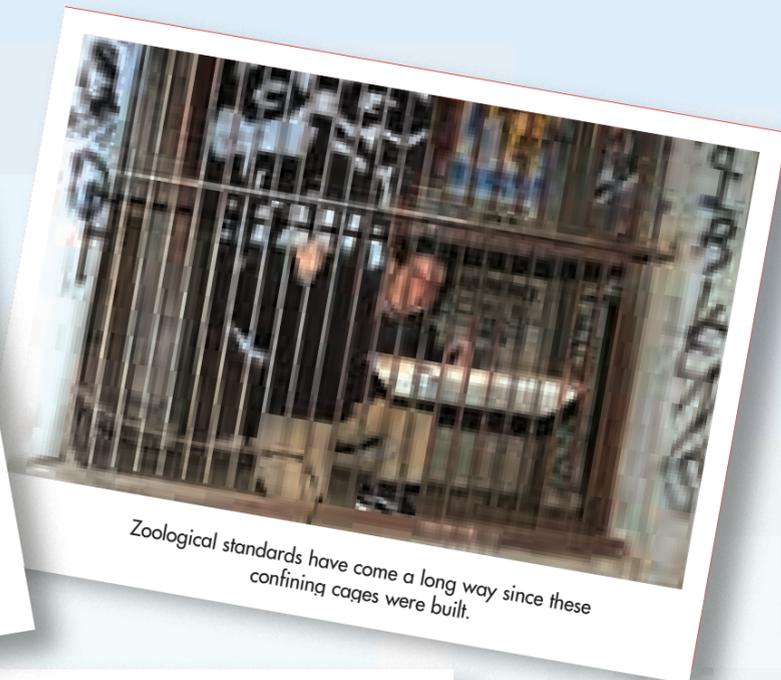
Where mortals fear to tread ... Angel goes!



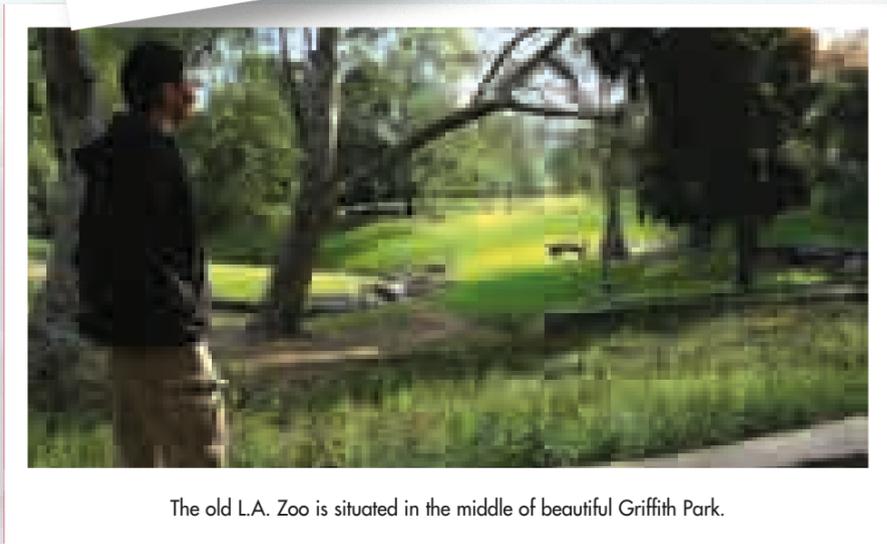
The old L.A. Zoo offers opportunities for exploration.



Please don't feed the Angels.



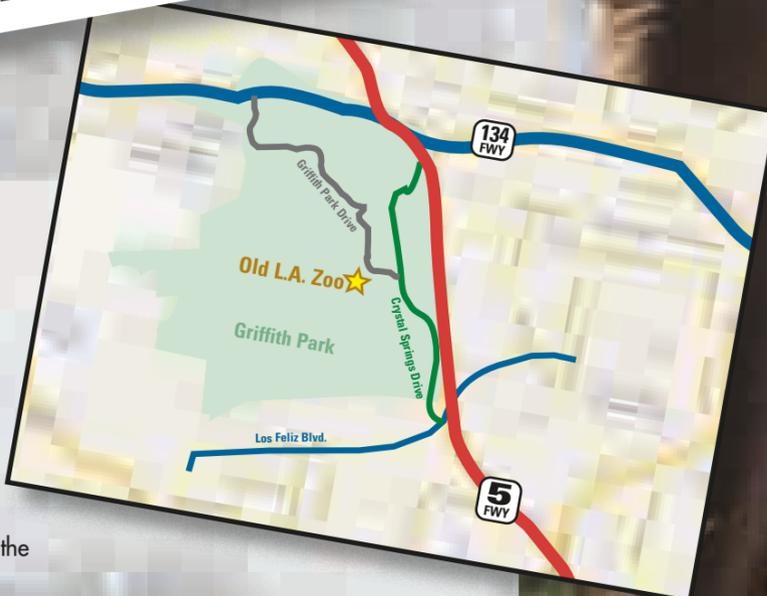
Zoological standards have come a long way since these confining cages were built.



The old L.A. Zoo is situated in the middle of beautiful Griffith Park.



Exploring the old L.A. Zoo is as haunting as it is fun.



## Directions:

- Take the 5 Freeway north.
- Exit the 5 freeway at Los Feliz; turn left and follow the road until you reach Crystal Springs Drive.
- Turn right on Crystal Springs Drive; you will pass the Park Rangers headquarters on the right.
- Pass the stop sign, and turn left on Griffith Park Drive. Then you will see the Old Zoo Picnic Area sign.
- You can park in the first set of parking spaces or continue forward, and there will be another parking site straight ahead. At this point you will see the path or the stairs that leads right up the old bear cages.
- Bring a lunch and enjoy the old zoo.

## April Events

### Earth Day at Cabrillo

- APRIL 19

Celebrate our "ocean planet" at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, Saturday, April 19, with a day of free programs, including a beach cleanup, speakers, information and activities. Participation options include joining the beach cleanup, sharing information, grunion egg hatching, guided walks to the salt marsh, and more.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is at 3720 Stephen M. White Dr. in San Pedro, and is a Rec and Parks facility. For more information, call (310) 548-7562 or go to: [www.cabrilloaq.org](http://www.cabrilloaq.org)

### Hollyhock House Tours

- ALL MONTH

Hollyhock House, built between 1919 and 1921 on the crown of Olive Hill, was Frank Lloyd Wright's first Los Angeles commission. Aline Barnsdall, an oil heiress, hired the famous architect to design a home for herself and her daughter that would be the center of an arts complex. Tours are available Wednesdays through Sundays at 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, and 3:30 p.m. General admission: \$7. Seniors and students: \$3. Free for 12 and under.

- Information: (323) 662-8139.

### Warner Grand Theatre

- ALL MONTH

Have you been to the revived Warner Grand Theatre in San Pedro? The theatre, which retains its atmosphere and décor from the day when it was built, in 1931, is managed by Cultural Affairs and presents a lively schedule of film festivals (both classic Hollywood and foreign), live performances from area entertainers and theatre companies, and is the launch location for area walking tours and preservation tours. It is truly one of the City's gems.

- Information: [www.warnergrand.org](http://www.warnergrand.org)

### Lineman's Rodeo

- MAY 17

City Employees are given a special invitation to watch the DWP lineman doing their thing during the annual DWP Lineman's Rodeo. The event is not open to the general public.

The event is set for 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May, 17, at the DWP Truesdale Facility, 11760 Truesdale St. in Sun Valley.

- Information: [www.lalinemanrodeo.com](http://www.lalinemanrodeo.com)

## Ticket Guy Recommends:



"Take the family to Adventure City. It's 'America's Little Theme Park.' The kids will love it!"



**Life insurance:**

# How Much Is Enough?

■ Many Americans with life insurance are so under-insured that if they die, their families won't be able to maintain their standard of living.

Loss of the deceased's income can have a devastating financial impact on a family. Assets may have to be sold to cover heavy medical expenses, final expenses and living costs. Recent reports from LIMRA International found that:

- Many married couples fail to plan for the eventual death of one spouse before the other, which can have serious consequences, especially when the survivor is the wife (*Public Misperceptions About Retirement Security – Closing the Gaps, 2007*).
- 22% of families with dependent children admit they would have immediate trouble meeting everyday expenses and another 26% could only cover expenses for a few months if a primary wage earner died (*Facts About Life, 2006*).
- 45% of widows and 37% of widowers say their spouse was inadequately insured. (*LIMRA Web site, 3/2007*).

The stark fact is that many Americans – nearly one-third, according to the 2006 LIMRA report – still don't have life insurance, and many of those who do have coverage often don't have enough to really make a difference:

- On average, U.S. households report they should own enough life insurance to replace six years of income, but only owned enough to replace their income for 2.8 years.

**Getting the coverage you need**

When you consider these facts, you may find that your family would not be adequately protected should they lose you and your income.

"Typically, term life insurance offers you the most life insurance protection for your money," explained Robert Larios, the Director of Marketing and Communications for The City Employees Club of Los Angeles. "It becomes even more affordable when you can purchase it at an attractive group rate. If there is a gap between the amount of life insurance you have and the amount your family would need, term life insurance may be the most economical way to close it."

**What to look for in a plan**

When evaluating term life insurance plans, here are some things to consider:

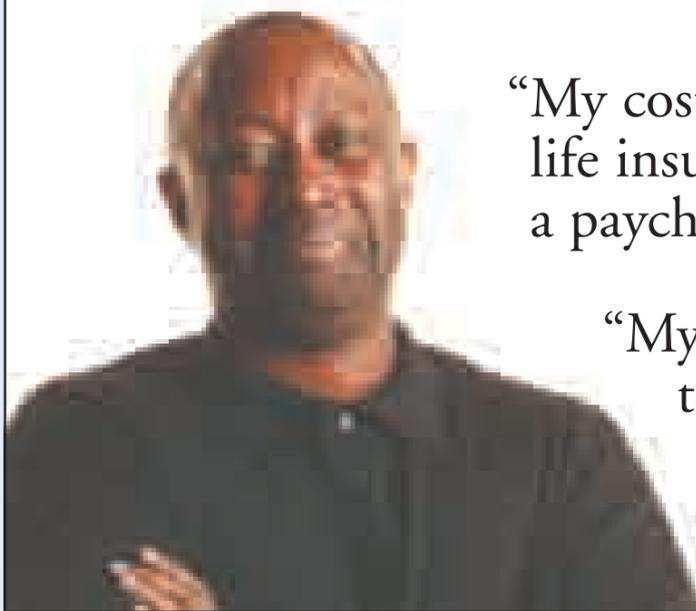
- Can you get the amount you need to adequately protect your family?
- Can you also get coverage for your spouse?
- Will the premiums for the amount of coverage you want be easy for you to handle?
- Is it easy and convenient to apply for?
- Is the underwriting company highly rated and financially strong?

The City Employees Club of Los Angeles has selected a Group Term Life Insurance Plan underwritten by a member company of American International Group, Inc., The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York. This company has been awarded an A++ (Superior) rating from A.M. Best. This rating reflects The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York's superior overall financial strength and operating performance when compared to A.M. Best's standards. The rating is current as of October 1, 2007. For the latest A.M. Best's ratings and A.M. Best's Company Reports, please visit the A.M. Best Web site at [www.ambest.com](http://www.ambest.com).

Club members are eligible to apply for this Club-sponsored plan at economical group rates. To apply, call The City Employees Club of Los Angeles at 1-800-464-0452, or review the plan details in this issue of *Alive!* and apply today with the application printed in this month's publication.

AG5539

For active and retired City or DWP employees



"My cost for \$100,000 of life insurance? Just \$6.00\* a paycheck."

"My advice? Take a minute to apply today."

See how economical this plan can be for you – see the chart below.

## Life Insurance from the Club is a smart, easy choice

**As little as \$2.75 per pay period!** Get \$50,000 to \$300,000 of term life insurance coverage at economical group rates – for example, a 29-year-old can get \$50,000 for \$2.75 per bi-weekly pay period.

**Both you and your spouse can apply.** Your spouse can apply even if you don't.

**Fair pricing built right in!** If we collect more premium than we end up needing for claims and expenses, we give the excess back to you! For 77 of our 79 years, insured members have received a Term Life premium refund!

**Typically no medical exam needed\*\*** if you're under age 50 and apply for up to \$100,000. If an exam is required for higher amounts, it will be scheduled at your convenience and at no cost to you.

**You can take your coverage with you.** This plan is portable, and stays with you even if you change jobs.

*\*Example for a 30- to 34-year-old.*

*\*\*Issuance of a Certificate of Insurance or payment of benefits may depend upon the answers given in the application and the truthfulness of those answers.*

**No need to write a check!** Payroll deduction makes premium payments easy and automatic.

**Double your benefit for just a few dollars more.** An economical way to double your total death benefit is to choose the same amount of Group Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance (AD&D) as your term life coverage. Just complete Step 3 of the application. There's never a medical exam required for Accidental Death insurance. And the cost is just \$1.25 per \$25,000 of coverage, regardless of age:

- \$50,000 for \$2.50/month
- \$100,000 for \$5.00/month
- \$200,000 for \$10.00/month

**Apply in minutes!** Just complete and return the brief application at right to apply. >>>

**Quick and easy to buy!** Find your economical group cost below, based on your current age. Then select the premium amount most comfortable for your budget – \$50,000, \$100,000, \$200,000. Or choose any other amount from \$10,000 up to \$300,000, in increments of \$10,000.

**Term Life Insurance premiums based on bi-weekly payroll deductions**

Age	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$200,000
Under 30	\$2.75	\$5.50	\$11.00
30-34	3.00	6.00	12.00
35-39	3.75	7.50	15.00
40-44	5.25	10.50	21.00
45-49	7.75	15.50	31.00
50-54	12.75	25.50	51.00
55-59	21.50	43.00	86.00
60-64	30.75	61.50	123.00
65-69	55.00	110.00	220.00
70+	(Renewal only, \$10,000 benefit, \$12.50/month)		

*Just \$1.20 bi-weekly covers all dependents over 6 months to age 19 (23 if a full-time student) for \$10,000 each (subject to state variations).*

*DWP employees please note: Because your deductions occur once per month instead of bi-weekly, your premiums are 2 times the premiums shown. Coverage amount reduces to \$10,000 when you reach age 70. Maximum benefit for those individuals 70+ years of age is \$10,000. The bi-weekly cost is \$12.50. For retirees, insurance ends at age 60. After age 60, you're eligible for the Retire Life Plan.*



**Questions?  
Call 1-800-464-0452**

The City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
World Trade Center  
350 South Figueroa St., Suite 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

Underwritten by:  
**The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York**  
New York, New York  
A member company of American International Group, Inc.

The underwriting risks, financial obligations and support functions associated with the products issued by The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York are its responsibility. The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York is responsible for its own financial condition and contractual obligations.  
© 2007 American International Group, Inc. All rights reserved.

**It's easy to make your family's future more secure – apply at right in minutes!**

**KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS**

**MIB DISCLOSURE**

**Medical Information Bureau (MIB) Disclosure Notice:** (Must be retained by the applicant) Information regarding your insurability will be treated as confidential. The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York, or its reinsurers may, however, make a brief report thereon to MIB, a not-for-profit membership organization of insurance companies, which operates an information exchange on behalf of its Members. If you apply to another MIB Member company for life or health insurance

coverage, or a claim for benefits is submitted to such a company, MIB, upon request, will supply such company with the information in its file.

Upon receipt of a request from you, MIB will arrange disclosure of any information it may have in your file. Please contact MIB at 866-692-6901 (TTY 866-346-3642). If you question the accuracy of information in MIB's file, you may contact MIB and seek a correction in accordance with the procedures set forth

in the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act. The address of MIB's information office is Post Office Box 105, Essex Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02112.

The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York, or its reinsurers, may also release information in its file to other insurance companies to whom you may apply for life or health insurance, or to whom a claim for benefits may be submitted.

## 7 EASY STEPS TO APPLY >>>

1. Complete the personal information for yourself, and your spouse, if applying.
2. Select the amount of Term Life you want for your family and answer the brief health questions.
3. Decide if you also want Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) coverage.
4. Designate your beneficiaries.
5. Sign and date the application – make sure your spouse also signs the application if he or she is applying.

6. Complete and sign the Payroll Deduction Authorization, including your Social Security number, name and department name.

7. Cut out the application, fold and mail it to:  
**The City Employees Club of Los Angeles, World Trade Center, 350 South Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071**

**No checks to send! Once your coverage is approved, your premium will be conveniently deducted from your paycheck. If you have any questions, please call us at 1-800-464-0452.**

**Note: Club membership is automatic when you apply for coverage.** As a member, you have access to discounts and savings on movies, theme parks, shopping and more for a payroll deduction of only \$4.50 per month (active employee) or \$2.50 per month (retired). By signing the Payroll Deduction Authorization (at right) you authorize these monthly deductions. Membership fees may change from time to time.

### Summary of plan details

**Effective date:** For term life, you will be insured on the first of the month coinciding with or next following the date United States Life approves the request, provided the required premium is paid. You must be actively at work on the date the insurance is to take effect. If you are not, the insurance will take effect on the day you return to work. Spouses, if applying, must be able to perform the normal activities of a person of like age and sex, in good health, on the date insurance is to take effect. If not, such insurance will take effect on the day they resume such activities. For AD&D, coverage will take effect on the date United States Life states in writing. You must be actively at work on the date the insurance is to take effect. If you are not, the insurance will take effect on the day you return to work. Spouses, if applying, must not be hospitalized on the date insurance is to take effect; if they are, insurance will take effect on the day after they are discharged.

**Eligibility:** You are eligible to apply if you are a member of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles (LACEA) and actively working full time.

**Date insurance ends:** As long as you continue to pay premiums, the group policy remains in effect, and insurance does not end for your class, your coverage will not end. In addition, AD&D coverage will not end unless you cease to be a member in good standing with the City Employees Club of Los Angeles (LACEA), with respect to spouses, if applying, the date marriage ends by divorce or annulment, and with respect to children, the date eligibility ends.

**Exclusions/limitations:** Certain exclusions apply. See your Certificate of Insurance for details. For term life, if a person commits suicide within two years from the date coverage takes effect, liability will be limited to the return of premiums paid, plus interest. Accidental death exclusions include: No benefits are payable for loss caused by suicide or intentionally self-inflicted injury; insurrection, war or act of war; physical or mental sickness or treatment of that sickness; voluntary intake of poison, gas, fumes, unless taken as prescribed by a physician; committing a felony, or an attempt to do so; being intoxicated or under the influence of a narcotic, unless prescribed by a physician; and flight in any type of aircraft in which you are the pilot, licensed or unlicensed, or a member of the crew.

This is a summary of benefits only and is subject to the terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of Group Policy Nos. V-189,706, V-189,709, and V-189,710, Form No. G-19000. Coverage may vary and may not be available in all states.

**Cut out the application, fold and mail it to:**

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



Programs underwritten by The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York A member company of American International Group, Inc.

## Application for Group Term Life Insurance City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Employee Term Life Insurance • Spouse Term Life Insurance • Accidental Death and Dismemberment

### STEP 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION

CITY/DWP EMPLOYEE	Last Name		First Name		MI	Social Security Number				City Dept.# /DWP Empl.#	
	Street Address					Work Phone ( )		Height (ft.-in.)			
	City		State	ZIP		Home Phone ( )		Weight (lbs.)			
	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY)		Place of Birth (City/State)			Age	E-Mail Address		<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Married		<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Single
SPOUSE	FILL OUT ONLY IF SPOUSE IS APPLYING FOR COVERAGE.										
	Last Name		First Name		MI	Social Security Number				City Dept.# /DWP Empl.#	
	Street Address					Work Phone ( )		Height (ft.-in.)			
	City		State	ZIP		Home Phone ( )		Weight (lbs.)			
Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY)		Place of Birth (City/State)			Age	E-Mail Address		<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Married		<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Single	

### STEP 2. COMPLETE THIS SECTION IF YOU WANT TERM LIFE INSURANCE

Choose the plan and indicate the benefit amount desired: (You may purchase in increments of \$10,000 to a maximum of \$300,000.)

<input type="checkbox"/> Employee	Total Coverage Amount Desired: \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse	Total Coverage Amount Desired: \$
<input type="checkbox"/> Dependent Coverage	Total Coverage Amount Available: \$ 10,000

	EMPLOYEE	SPOUSE
1. Have you ever had chest pains, disease or disorder of the heart, liver, kidneys or lungs, high blood pressure, albumin or sugar in his/her urine, diabetes, cancer, tumors or ulcers?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Have you, or your spouse if applying, during the past 5 years, consulted any physician or other practitioner or been confined or treated in any hospital or similar institution?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Have you used tobacco or nicotine in any form during the past twelve months?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

If you answered "Yes" to any parts of the above questions, give details below. Use a separate sheet of paper, sign and date it if more space is needed for answers.

Question #	Name of Proposed Insured	Condition	Date Occurred	Duration	Degree of Recovery	Names & Addresses of Physicians, Hospitals or Clinics Consulted

### STEP 3. COMPLETE THIS SECTION IF YOU WANT GROUP ACCIDENTAL DEATH & DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE

Choose the plan and indicate the benefit amount desired:

<input type="checkbox"/> Employee	Total Coverage Amount Desired: \$	\$25,000 to \$300,000 (available in increments of \$25,000)
<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse	Total Coverage Amount Desired: \$	\$25,000 to \$300,000 (available in increments of \$25,000)
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family plan covers spouse for 50% and children for 20%. <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse but no children = 60% coverage. Children but no spouse = 25% coverage.	

### STEP 4. DESIGNATE YOUR BENEFICIARIES

Primary Beneficiary:	Relationship:
Secondary Beneficiary (Optional):	Relationship:

Beneficiary of spouse will be the City/DWP Employee unless otherwise specified on a separate sheet of paper.

### STEP 5. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING, THEN SIGN AND DATE BELOW TO APPLY.

**AUTHORIZATION AND DECLARATION OF EACH PERSON GIVING A STATEMENT OF INSURABILITY**

I hereby authorize any licensed physician, medical practitioner, hospital, clinic, or other medical or medically related facility, insurance company, the Medical Information Bureau, or other organization, institution or person that has any records or knowledge of me or my health, to give to United States Life or its reinsurers any such information. Such information will pertain to my employment, or other insurance carrier or medical care, advice, treatment or supplies for any physical or mental condition. This includes that information obtained in connection with the preparation or procurement of an investigative consumer report as defined under the Fair Credit Reporting Act(s). To facilitate the rapid submission of such information, I authorize all said sources, except the Medical Information Bureau, to give such records or knowledge to any agency employed by United States Life to collect and transmit such information.

I understand that this information will be used by United States Life solely to determine eligibility for insurance. I understand that I may revoke this authorization at any time. I agree that such revocation will not affect any action which United States Life has taken in reliance upon this authorization. I understand this authorization will not be valid after 24 months from the effective date of coverage, if not revoked earlier. I know that I should retain a copy of this authorization for my records. I agree that a photocopy of this authorization is as valid as the original. To the best of my knowledge and belief, all statements made above are true and complete.

I understand that my application for group insurance will be accepted or declined on the basis of these statements. Insurance will take effect only if a certificate is issued based on this application and the first premium is paid in full (a) during the lifetime of all proposed insureds; and (b) while there is no change in the insurability or health of such person from that stated in the application.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Any person who knowingly and with intent to defraud any insurance company or other person files a statement of claim containing any materially false information, or conceals for the purpose of misleading, information concerning any fact material thereto, commits a fraudulent insurance act, which may be a crime. Fraud provisions vary by state.

Date:	Applicant's Signature: <b>X</b>
Date:	Spouse's Signature (if applying for insurance): <b>X</b>

**NEW POLICYHOLDERS: Club membership fees will be automatically deducted.**

G-19027L AG5539 Group Policy Nos. V-189,706, V-189,709, and V-189,710

### STEP 6. COMPLETE AND SIGN THE PAYROLL DEDUCTION AUTHORIZATION.

## Payroll Deduction Authorization

Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Department: \_\_\_\_\_

To: **Controller—City of Los Angeles, or Fire and Police Pension, or City Employees Retirement System, or Paymaster—Department of Water and Power**

I hereby authorize the deduction from my salary of amounts sufficient to cover premiums/membership fees on any of my group benefits provided by **City Employees Club of Los Angeles**. In the event any premiums should change due to age, increase in salary or benefits, or a general rate increase for the entire Association, I authorize you to make such change upon notification from the City Employees Club of Los Angeles and such deduction to remain in force until canceled by me in writing.

Sign Here

**X**

City/DWP Employee

Date

### Federal Law P.L. 93-579 Section 7

**RE: FEDERAL PRIVACY ACT AND USE OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS**  
 This law requires you be informed, when asked for your Social Security Number, that it must be provided for use in employment, personnel and payroll processes: Authority for requiring this information is based upon provision of the City's payroll and personnel candidate processing system operational prior to January 1, 1975 and applicable Federal Law.

### FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Code \_\_\_\_\_ Deduction \_\_\_\_\_

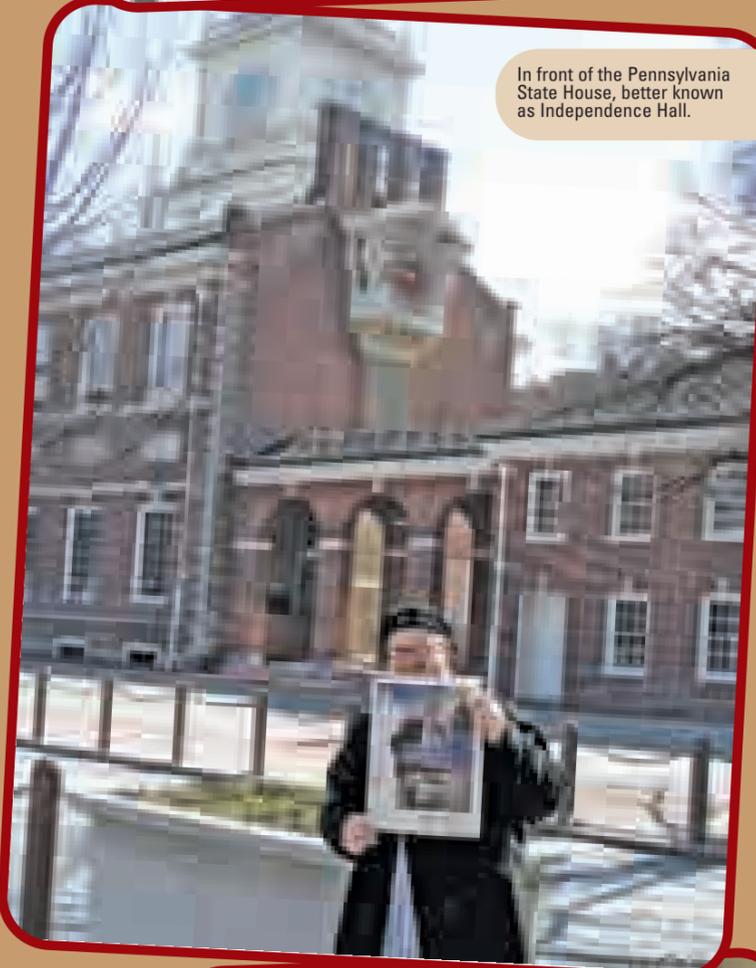


# 1 Philadelphia

Here's *Alive!* editor John Burnes in (very cold) Philadelphia, the birthplace of our national government, celebrating our country.



In front of the Liberty Bell.



In front of the Pennsylvania State House, better known as Independence Hall.

Inside the assembly room where the Declaration of Independence was ratified July 4, 1776, and signed in August of that same year. The chair over John's right shoulder is the actual chair where George Washington sat while presiding over the assembly; behind John is the area where Benjamin Franklin sat, in observance.



# 2 Argentina



"Here I am in Bariloche, Argentina. My husband and I spent two weeks in South America this past January. Bariloche, in Patagonia, was definitely the highlight of our trip. Imagine a small Swiss village (known for its chocolate) surrounded by beautiful lakes and mountains where hiking, climbing, kayaking, whitewater rafting, fishing, canyoning and skiing (during their winter) are right at your doorstep. A true paradise!"

- Debbie Scanlon, City Attorney's Office

# 3 Nicaragua



"My wife visited her home town last month in La Concordia, Nicaragua, showing off our favorite employee newspaper, *Alive!*"

- George Cormany, LAPD



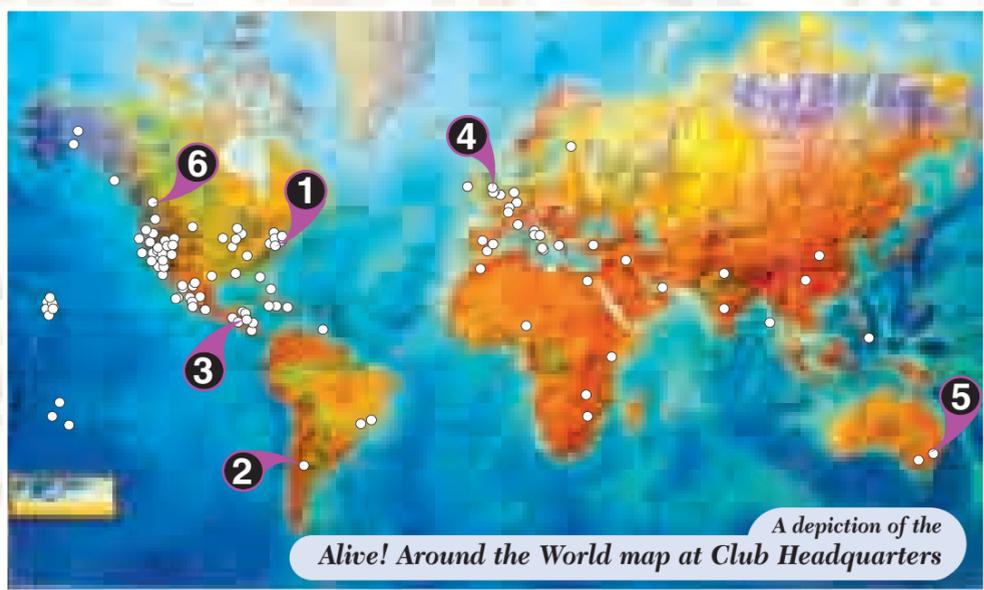
# Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



**4** **England**



"Here is a picture of me in the Coventry Transport Museum in Coventry, England."  
**- Russell Brown, Rec and Parks**



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

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

**5** **Australia**



"I traveled to Sydney, Australia, in February, and I wanted to share a photo with you."  
**- Simone McDade**

**6** **Canada**



"This picture was taken on Whistler Mountain in British Columbia, Canada, on my ski trip with the Far West Ski Association this past January, a week of beautiful scenery, great skiing and fabulous friends. It's great to be *Alive!*"  
**- Yvette Sanchez-Owens, LAPD**

# Cooking with the Club

by Chef Robert Larios



## Send Us Your Recipes!

If you would like your recipe published in the next issue of *Alive!*, you may fax your recipes to (213) 620-0398 or e-mail us at [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com).



### [ A Cook's Dictionary ]

#### Parmesan cheese:

A hard, dry cheese made from skimmed or partially skimmed cow's milk.

— From the *The New Food Lover's Companion*, Sharon Tyler Herbst, 1995, Barron's Educational Series.

## Spinach Ricotta Ravioli

### INGREDIENTS:

- About 9 ounces, or about 12 medium-size ravioli pieces
- 1 1/2 cups of water
- 1 tablespoon of chile oil
- 1 tablespoon of extra virgin olive oil
- Parmesan cheese
- 3 basil leaves
- Sea salt and pepper



**Cooking Tidbit:** You may also substitute other dry cheeses, including Asiago!

### DIRECTIONS:



Place water in a medium-size pot and turn stovetop knob to medium high heat. Season water by adding a pinch of sea salt and freshly cracked pepper.



Although you are free to make your own homemade ravioli, for the sake of keeping the cooking steps quick and easy, I have used store-bought fresh ravioli pasta.



Add extra virgin olive oil to the boiling water and begin to add the ravioli. The extra virgin olive will add a light flavor and keep the pasta from sticking together.



Place strained ravioli in a large dish, add Parmesan cheese crumbles and drizzle with chile oil or extra virgin olive (if you don't like it spicy).

Once the water begins to boil, let boil for about three minutes. Then pour into a straining bowl in the kitchen sink.



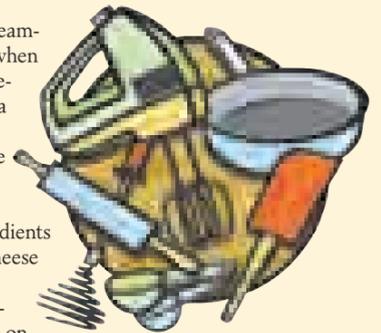
Lastly, place basil on dish and serve.

## Two for the Money

While pasta dishes taste best with tomato- or cream-based sauces, I also believe there was a time when complex sauces didn't exist. So the simplest of ingredients were used to heighten the flavors of the pasta dish. In the recipe I use here, I love the use of Parmesan and extra virgin olive oil, along with some kind of spicy ingredient such as chile oil, red chile pepper flakes, etc.

You can make several other dishes with the ingredients used in these recipes. You may substitute Asiago cheese instead of Parmesan. There are others that can be used, but I prefer a hard (dry) cheese, since the texture lends itself to the ability to crumble the cheese on the pasta. Also, you are free to use any kind of bread, but it's always a good idea to use flat bread. So the easiest flat bread to find is from a loaf of sandwich bread. And lastly, you may make your own ravioli for that great homemade experience, but I decided to speed up the process by using store-bought ravioli pasta. You may use the dry version, too, but the cooking time is usually twice as long.

Enjoy!



## Avocado Bruschetta

### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 basil leaves
- Cilantro
- One medium Hass avocado
- One medium Roma tomato
- Parmesan cheese
- Sea salt and pepper
- Extra virgin olive oil
- Your favorite bread or toast, thinly sliced



### DIRECTIONS:



Have all your ingredients — the basil, cilantro, and tomato — washed and prepared.



Peel and slice the avocado into thin slices. Toast the bread and add a dab of honey mustard on it, then add the thin slices of the avocado over that.



Place the basil leaves, thin slices of tomato, and cilantro after that.



Cut a few slices of Parmesan cheese, or crumble the slices up.

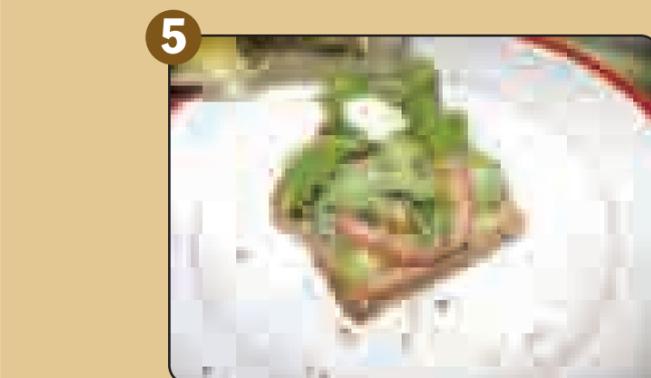


Plate it and have it set aside as you begin the ravioli dish.



The 2008 LAFCU Board of Directors consists of (seated, from left): Chuck Rubin, Vice Chairperson; Denise McGee, Chairperson; Cliff Cannon, Treasurer; and Stan Horwitz, Secretary. Standing are: Directors Jack Matthews, Gary Mattingly, Roslyn Carter-Phillips, Neil Ricci, and Jerry Waggoner.

## New LAFCU Board

### ■ LA Federal Credit Union elects new board.

Story and photo courtesy Dina Franks, LAFCU

LAFCU — The Los Angeles Federal Credit Union announced its 2008 Board of Directors and Officers at the LAFCU Annual Meeting Feb. 26 at the Glendale Branch.

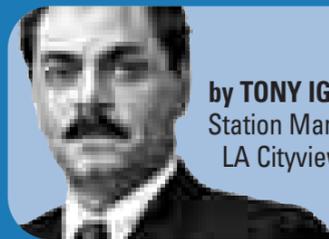
The Board of Directors is responsible for determining LAFCU's strategic direction and overall policies. Board members and the officials who serve on the Credit and Supervisory Committees volunteer their time to serve

Los Angeles City employees through their participation at LAFCU.

The new board includes Chuck Rubin, Vice Chairman; Denise McGee, Chair; Cliff Cannon, Treasurer; Stan Horwitz, Secretary; Jack Matthews, Director, Gary Mattingly, Director; Roslyn Carter-Phillips, Director; Neil Ricci, Director; and Jerry Waggoner, Director.

LAFCU was founded in 1936, and now has more than 47,000 members and \$620 million in assets. For details about membership and LAFCU's range of financial products and services, call (877) MY LAFCU (695-2328), visit a local branch, or download an application from [www.lafcu.org](http://www.lafcu.org).

# Tuned In



by TONY IGHANI  
Station Manager,  
LA Cityview 35



## Critical Budget Hearings Are Live on Cityview 35

Like many cities across the nation, the City of Los Angeles is facing a very difficult budget forecast for the 2008-09 fiscal year. As in previous years, LA Cityview 35 provides live coverage of the annual budget hearings that begin in late April and continue into May.

This year, particularly, is critical that our elected officials hear from the communities they represent. So, get involved and watch the proceedings and provide your feedback. Check our schedule at [www.lacityview.org](http://www.lacityview.org) for specific times of the meetings.

## Programming Highlights for April

### Emergency Preparedness PSAs

Premiering this month is a series of Public Service Announcements created specifically for persons with disabilities to prepare them for disasters. The first PSA covers general preparedness, while the second focuses on home preparedness. The third PSA is geared toward visually impaired people, and the fourth towards the deaf and hearing impaired. And lastly, the fifth PSA emphasizes the importance of relying on your neighbors as first responders in cases of disasters.

These Emergency Preparedness PSAs are produced in collaboration with the Emergency Management Department and the Department on Disability.

### DWP 2008 Science Bowl

This exciting half-hour documentary about this year's annual prestigious high school academic competition showcases students from several schools preparing for the game-show-style event. The program also shows a number of teams competing and includes extensive interviews with students, coaches and parents.

The annual DWP Science Bowl, held Feb. 23 at DWP headquarters, is part of the U.S. Department of Energy National Science Bowl program. This year's Science Bowl involved 42 teams from 30 local high schools answering mind-twisting toss-up and bonus questions from moderators.

During the day, more than 150 matches between two teams at a time were held, leading up to the final round of competition, this year between North Hollywood High School and Harvard-Westlake School.

The DWP 2008 Science Bowl XVI will air Monday, April 21, at 11 a.m. and 10 p.m.; Thursday, May 1 at 1:30 p.m.; and Saturday, May 3 at 2:30 p.m.

### L.A. Roundtable

LA Cityview 35 continues its award-winning series of public affairs panel discussions, "L.A. Roundtable," with three new programs.

**L.A. Schools Update:** Although there have been many changes on the Los Angeles Unified School District board, and a new Superintendent has been in

office about one year, the district continues to be embroiled in turmoil. We'll look at the situation from the perspective of the state government, the City of L.A., and the teacher's union.

**The Future of Entertainment Delivery:** Every day we hear news of something new on the Internet, whether it's a new TV series, a new way to buy music or watch movies, or a new way to "network" with friends. The recent writers' strike involved payments for the "streaming" content. Analog television sets will become dinosaurs when digital television broadcasting is discontinued in less than a year, and cell phones now seem to be able to do just about anything (except, at times, make calls). What does all this mean to the future of entertainment?

**The Housing and Home Mortgage Crisis:** It seems that every newscast these days contains grim news about the decline in home values and the increase in the number of foreclosures. Thousands of families have lost their homes, and thousands more are about to. What caused the sudden crisis in home mortgages, and who is to blame? Should the government bail out homeowners and/or the lenders who made what were sometimes questionable or even fraudulent loans? Will new buyers ever be able to afford homes, and will existing owners be able to keep theirs?

"L.A. Roundtable" airs Mondays at 1:30 and 8 p.m., and Fridays at 9:30 p.m. The series is produced and hosted by Dave Bryan, Political Reporter on KCAL9 and CBS2, and co-produced by Steve Miller.

### Your Council District Close-Up!

"Your Council District Close-Up" spends a full half-hour, one-on-one, with each of the City's 15 Councilmembers, getting to know them and the community issues that they care about. This month, LA Cityview 35 premieres a full slate of new interviews with our City leaders.

"Your Council District Close-Up" is seen weekdays at 8:30 a.m. and again at 7 p.m., with a different City Councilmember featured each day.

For airing schedule of the above programs, and for more program listings and information, visit [www.lacityview.org](http://www.lacityview.org).

For airing schedule of the above programs, and for more program listings and information, visit [www.lacityview.org](http://www.lacityview.org).



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

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

See you on LA Cityview 35!



Would you like a pen with your company's name on it? How about a coffee mug or a mouse pad?

(We also do Family Reunions!)

Call 213-689-4662

"If you can imagine it, we can create it."

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We've Moved to  
Larger Quarters

Rosebud Marketing is now in Suite  
B-277 (we were in A-444).

# Walk to the Club Store!

**For our downtown Club Members,  
the Club Store is going to be a lot  
easier to reach. After May 1,  
the Club Store is moving to  
120 W. Second St., between  
Spring and Main Streets.**

**SEE THE STORY ON PAGE 29.**



**City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
(800) 464-0452  
[www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)**



# Life's Important Moments

## Share your moments!

Did you get married? Have a baby? (Yea!) Get a promotion? (Hooray!) Retire? (Ahhhh.) We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and high resolution photos with the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com) or send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!* 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

### New Members

#### Welcome New Members!

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

<b>Airports</b>	<b>ITA</b>	Kurt Boedeker
Jose Alvarez	LeRoy Shaw Jr.	Gabriel Buelna
Audelino Arquete	Leigh Smith	Roland Cooper
Santiago Barajos	<b>City Council</b>	Melissa Daniels
Maria Cardenas	Justin Robertson	Frank Escobar
Carolyn Dixon	<b>Harbor</b>	Aubrey Fields
Silvia Facio	Don McLaurin	Joe Franco
Pete Flores	<b>General Services</b>	Victor Fregoso
Maria Galvez	Ernesto Del Real	Andre Green
Gary Harris	William Neder	Mark Jobb
Jorge Hernandez	<b>Environmental Affairs</b>	Jeffrey Johnson
Bayardo	Francisco Guerrero	Basilio Llamas
Largaespada	<b>Housing</b>	Jose Lopez
Francisco Martinez	Victor Armijo	Gerald Lopez
Tyree Moore	Oscar Canizales	Robert Macias
George Moore	John Doyle	Anthony Mendoza
David Phillips Jr.	Antoinette Hayward	Adrian Murillo
Dinora Platero	Sylvia Rodriguez	Alejandro
Maria Ponsiano	<b>LAPD</b>	Rodriguez
Ana Reyes	Eddie Solomon	James Smith Jr.
Maria Rivas	Debra Fore	Martin Vargas
Alicia Solis	Iris Lockett	Tim Warren
Lidia Vasquez	<b>Public Works</b>	<b>Street Services</b>
Wayne Yocumo	Brian Angell	John Madrid
<b>Animal Services</b>	Salvador Arredondo	<b>Rec and Parks</b>
Joseph Cruz		Juan Cardenas
Jill Meza		Belinda Castro
Daniel Pantoja		Michael Forte
		Oscar Huerta
		Lionel Jackson

### In Memoriam

Our thoughts and condolences are with the family and friends of the following current and retired City employees who have passed away. The number after the name indicates years of service.

<b>Active</b>	Thomas Kocher, Public Works, 32
Larry Billberry*, DWP, 23	Yoshio Kondo, Rec and Parks, 13
Muriel Brueckner, Rec and Parks, 4	Leonard Lippert, Housing, 16
Leon Chin, DWP, 19	Asbury Lockett, City Clerk, 28
Sharon Cowlings*, DWP, 22	George Lockwood, General Services, 15
Yvonne Funches, Animal Services, 15	Marvin McGee, DWP, 34
Abuzarjome Sohrabi, Airports, 15	Otis Melton, DWP, 35
Socorro Smith, Finance, 1	William Munro, DWP, 31
Velma Young, DWP, 22	Samuel Okun, Airports, 16
<b>Retired</b>	Charles Panichi, DWP, 23
Wesley Anderson, LAPD, 19	William Peoples, Transportation, 21
Silas Barnett, Convention Center, 31	Mildred Peterson, Personnel, 22
Donald Bell*, DWP, 9	Randall Pollei, LAFD, 36
Mary Born, DWP, 26	William Priest, DWP, 26
Betty Bunn, DWP, 12	Ronald Reed, Public Works, 32
Joe Butler, Public Works, 33	Hilda Robin, DWP, 15
Marie Campbell, Airports, 31	George Robles, Public Works, 13
Willie Cleveland, General Services, 27	J.C. Russell, Public Works, 20
William Cobb, Public Works, 23	Bette Sauer, LAPD, 15
Roy Cramer, DWP, 24	Charles Scheible, DWP, 30
Donald Dimmick, DWP, 23	Gloria Schippers, City Attorney, 17
Adele Dionne, ITA, 5	Francis Secrest, LAPD, 21
Robert Dyer, DWP, 36	Leonard Shield, Controller's Office, 29
Margie Ealy, General Services, 22	Minoru Shintaku, General Services, 25
Theodore Ellman, Library, 20	Sharon Siskel, City Attorney, 13
Onie Farrow, Public Works, 31	Herbert Swanson, DWP, 39
Nessio Felli, DWP, 29	Lawrence Sudds, Public Works, 19
Daniel Friedman, DWP, 41	Gloria Thomas, Finance, 42
George Gegenworth, DWP, 33	Rex Thompson, DWP, 14
Leo Goldberg, DWP, 40	Raul Vasquez, General Services, 24
Albert Gomez, DWP, 18	Vincent Vasquez, LAFD, 25
Juan Hernandez, Transportation, 29	Charles White, Airports, 24
Marvin Hildreth, Public Works, 36	Elizabeth Wimmer, DWP, 25
Charles Jones, DWP, 31	Albert Zelnicker, DWP, 24
Helen Kim, Transportation, 32	

### Promotions

*Alive!* is delighted to publish promotion photos of Club members. Have a photo of a recent promotion? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

### Quinceañera

*Alive!* is delighted to publish photos of Club members quinceañera. Have a photo of a recent quinceañera? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

### Retirements

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Almie Abadilla	Systems Analyst	ITA	28	Joyce Law	Pr. Clerk	LAPD	23
Robert Aguillo	General Manager	LACERS	32	James Lee	Management Analyst	Public Works	18
William Averett	Sr. Industrial Waste Inspector	Public Works	26	Andree Matton	Librarian	Library	27
Jacqueline Besser	Pr. Clerk	City Attorney	20	Brenda Obrien	Management Analyst	LAPD	27
Gary Booher	Assoc. Zoning Admin.	Planning	33	Dolores Olivas	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	35
Michael Dee	Animal Collection Curator	Zoo	40	Paul Poindexter	Dep. City Attorney	City Attorney	23
Rosemary Delgado	Sr. Clerk Typist	ITA	33	Johnny Pool	Truck Operator/One Man	Public Works	25
Angela Derby	Accounting Clerk	LAFD	29	Ray Rivera	Equipment Operator	Public Works	28
Diane Engel	Safety Engr. Associate	Personnel	12	Christopher Roberts	Compressor Operator	Public Works	22
Marilyn Fackler-Gray	Animal Keeper	Zoo	22	Paul Singleton	Equipment Mechanic	LAPD	10
Martha Gutierrez	Dep. City Attorney	City Attorney	26	Mary Thompson Bowers	Sr. Clerk Typist	Public Works	32
David Hargis	Heavy Duty Equip. Mech.	General Services	30	Patricia Tubert	Deputy General Manager	Airports	30
Paul Holder	Tax Auditor	Finance	15	Chi Yang	Structural Engineer	Building and Safety	11
Stephen Ikkanda	Structural Engr. Associate	Building and Safety	30				



## Births



Journey, Adan and Christian Glapion, triplets born Dec. 10 to Carzett Glapion, DWP. "The last triplet was released from the hospital recently," Carzett reports. "I am happy to share this news with my fellow City Employees."



Emily Anne, born Dec. 13 to Jessica Armour-Bulbul, Office of Finance, and her husband, Enray. "Our beautiful little gift from God is a blessing in our life," her parents say.

*Alive!* is delighted to publish photos of Club members newborn babies. Have a photo of a recent newborn? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



## Special Achievements

"Michelle is my niece," reports Nee Truong, ITA. "She won a Valentine recycling contest for her painted and decorated bottle and a rock." She is pictured with her friend, Nefertiti. – Nee Truong, ITA

Have you or your children recently achieved something special? It could be academic, or part of your hobby, or similar. Let us know! Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



## Weddings



Lt. Guy Painter, Airport Police, and Tania Painter, Nov. 3 in Arcadia.



*Alive!* is delighted to publish wedding photos of Club members. Have a photo of a recent wedding? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



## Graduations



Lauren Aragon is scheduled to graduate from Ruben Ayala High School in Chino Hills. She plans to attend the University of Arizona in Tucson this fall. Lauren received a \$20,000 per year scholarship for being recognized by the College Board as a National Hispanic Scholar Finalist. She's the daughter of Lin Aragon, Senior Personnel Analyst I, Airports. Congratulations, Lauren and Lin!

Have you or your children recently achieved something special? It could be academic, or part of your hobby, or similar. Let us know! Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



## Military



Does someone in your extended family serve their country as a member of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard? Send us a photo – either formal or on duty, along with your name, City department and relationship to the subject. Send photos to *Alive!* in the Military, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St. Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071. Send digital photos to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

# Protect Your Family With Club Insurance. Today!

## Insurance Products

### From the Club

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



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

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

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



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

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

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

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

**Group Rated Auto and Homeowners Insurance**

## Your Counselor

### Can Help

Your Club Counselor will be happy to answer any questions you may have regarding the Club's insurance packages. Look on page 4 to find out which Counselor represents your department ...or call (800) 464-0452.



Arlene Herrero



Liz Montes



Howard Pompel

# CLASSIFIED ADS *Alive!*

## Members Marketplace

### New Ads This Month!



**PALM SPRINGS CONDO FOR RENT** - Close to the village & Spa Resort Casino. 1 bedroom/1 bath, sleeps 5. Gated Community with 8 Swimming Pools & Spas. Tennis Court and Shuffleboard Court. Call for Weekday & Weekend Rates. (562) 301-2940. 408

**Marina Dunes/Monterey Bay Timeshare** for seven nights. One week 10/18/08 - 10/25/08 for only \$975. Sleeps 6 max. King in master, 2 twins in 2nd Bedroom and Queen Murphy in LR. Full kitchen, Cable TV, VCR/DVD, Gas FP + BBQ, W&D, Outdoor Swimming Pool + more. No pets. No A/C. Call and leave a message for Terry at (818) 769-3382. 408

**Grand Getaway Vacation Certificate.** The trip is for 3 days, 2 nights at the Ramada Plaza Resort in Orlando/Ft. Lauderdale. There is a catch - you have to buy a hotel room. \$45. Steven J. Ramos, (323) 224-1617. 408

**For Rent** - Apartment: residential neighborhood in Northeast Los Angeles. 2-bed/full bath, kitchen, living room, dining room and garage. Convenient to markets, public transportation, and freeways; \$1000 a month. Call (213) 952-0835. 408

**Vegas Timeshare for Rent** on Tropicana Ave. One week from 10/5/08 - 10/12/08. Seven nights for only \$800. Sleeps 4 max. King in Mstr and Queen Murphy in LR. Full Kitchen, W&D, A/C, CATV, VCR/DVD PLYR, Outdoor Pool, Hot Tubs, Kiddie Pool, Exerc. Room, Rec Ctr, and shuttle service to "The Strip". Call Terry at (818) 769-3382. Lv Msg. 408

**Sprint (PCS) Vision Phone** with leather case, lithium ion battery. Desktop recharger; hardly ever used. Activated once but had to turn the service off. Asking \$70. Steven J. Ramos, (323) 224-1617. 408

**Digix Home Entertainment Theater.** Includes subwoofer, 5 mini attachable speakers, wiring from speakers. Kind of difficult to wire, but if set up, the theater will work. \$100 - \$120. Steven J. Ramos, (323) 224-1617. 408

**Mamiya M645 1000S Camera** with normal and wide angle lens plus grip holder. \$350. Call Leon at (310) 831-6652. 408

**El Camino For Sale** - '73 El Camino V8 automatic, runs well, but needs interior work, \$1500. Call Cortez Norwood, (323) 382-2405. 408

**Restore or Collectors Project** - '57 Chevy Pick-up, 6 cylinder, stick shift, engine parts missing, \$3000. Call Cortez Norwood, (323) 382-2405. 408

**2000 Harley.** Reduced price: \$13,500 FIRM. First Come first Gets. Email kkaufman001@roadrunner.com 507

**Camplight 2000 Tent Trailer.** Slide out dining room, electric lift, indoor and outdoor shower, toilet, refrigerator, stove, air condition, heat, sleeps 7. \$5,000 507

### Electronics/Computers

Used **Panasonic PV-L750 camcorder** in excellent working condition, complete with carrying case. Asking \$400 OBO. Contact # (310) 408-6431 in Torrance. 607

Used **HP 5650 printer** in excellent working condition. Asking \$25. Complete with cables and software. Contact # (310) 408-6431 in Torrance. 607

### Furniture

**Twin sized Electric Hospital Bed** - new, unused. (TVC Bed Series by Invacare). Selling for \$1,000 purchased for \$1,500. Call Lisa (323) 377-8201 or email me.Lisaaj79@yahoo.com 308

**Electric Recliner Easy Chair.** Like new, only used for one month. Great for person that has difficulty getting up from sitting. Beige \$350.00 Call: Bob (213) 503-6262 208

**Blue couch** in excellent condition, purchased at Levitz. No stains and very comfy. \$250.00. Please call (323) 344-0767 or e-mail tracey@snh-cpa.com 208

**Moving** to smaller unit before retiring overseas. Everything must go. Make an offer & take it with you. Call Leslie Harbour (310) 80-6397 for appointment. 1107

**Dining Room Table:** Spanish style dark wood dining room table with 6 chairs. Excellent condition! \$850 or OBO. Contact Jeff (562) 316-8165 807

**Dining Room Table:** Spanish style dark wood dining room table with 6 chairs. Excellent condition! \$850 or OBO. Contact Jeff (562) 316-8165 807

### Homes/Rentals/Land

**FOR RENT:** Lovely apartment in Inglewood (Townhouse). 2 bed/1 bath, kitchen/stove/dishwasher, living room, dining room, 1-car garage/gated parking. Two story unit. New paint, carpet, windows and fixtures, Washer/Dryer in unit. Very quiet. Inglewood, CA on Cory Dr. Close to public transportation. Call for more details (310) 365-1868. 308

**FOR RENT:** Lovely apartment in Los Angeles, Leimert Park (4-unit complex). 2 beds/1 bath, kitchen/Granite countertops, living room, dining room, 1-car garage. New paint, carpet/hardwood & tiled floors, windows and fixtures, Washer/dryer hookup. Very quiet. Los Angeles, CA Leimert Park. Close to public transportation. Call for more details. (310) 365-1868. 308

**FOR RENT:** Lovely apartment in Los Angeles (6 Units). 1 bed/1 bath, kitchen, living room, dining room, 1-car garage. New paint, carpet, windows and fixtures. Very quiet. Located in Leimert Park. Close to public transportation. Call for more details (310) 365-1868. 308

**House for Sale** 3 Bedrooms 2 Baths, Large front/back yard, fenced, 2 on Lot Great starter, good area Foreclosure in Los Angeles, Call for Appt (323) 294-6552 308

**Room for rent:** Spacious Redondo Beach (safe and near beach) 2bd, 1bd, 2 car garage apt to share with female and two small dogs (Pomeranians). \$750+ Electrical/Month. (626) 840-0181 308

**Timeshare 4 Sale Las Vegas Club de Soleil** 2 bedroom unit close to the strip Take over payments \$257.42. Call (661) 718-2192 ask 4 Gina or Jackie. 308

**Immaculate Back House for Rent,** \$1,500. Bright and cozy 2 bedroom, 1 bath home in the prime area of Alhambra. Close to the 10, 60 and 710 Freeways, Cal State LA and downtown LA. Home completely remodeled, hardwood floors throughout. 2 spacious bedrooms with large closets. Bright kitchen with stainless steel appliances and granite counter tops. Open living/dining room with recess lighting and large windows. Plus central air/heat, w/d, and small yard. Please call or email to view home: Araceli (323) 255-3122, araceli.carillo@lacity.org 308

**Home for Rent:** Thousand Oaks, 3 bedroom/2 bath, pool, A/C. Near all businesses/attractions. Fireplace. \$2,500/month. Pets negotiable. Inquiries: kkaufman001@roadrunner.com 308

**FOR RENT:** Lovely apartment in Inglewood (4-units). 1 bed/1 bath, kitchen, living room, dining room, 1-car garage. Downstairs unit. New paint, carpet, windows and fixtures. Very quiet. 82nd/Crenshaw. Close to public transportation. Call for more details (310) 365-1868. 208

**Timeshare 4 sale Las Vegas Club de Soleil,** 2 bedroom unit close to the strip, Take over payments \$257.42, Call (661) 718-2192 ask 4 Gina or Jackie 308

**Duplex for rent** (upstairs) 3+1 quiet area near downtown across the street from Elysian Park. Rudy Godinez (323) 780-4804 Price: \$1400 208

Death in the family forces **sale of two (2) lot parcels at Prescott Lakes Resort and Golf.** At Prescott Valley Arizona. Amenities includes all year round golf, membership and unlimited use club facilities. 1 parcel is .59 acres for \$127,500.00. 2nd parcel is .47 acres for \$119,000.00, both parcels are valued at over \$280,000.00. Seller is motivated. Please contact Joe at (818) 288-4269 or (805) 306-0684 or at bunihon@yahoo.com 108

**Condo for rent in Highland Park** - 2 bedrooms 1 bath, includes water, 2 car garage, gated, washer/dryer on site \$1300.00 call (323) 351-0694 or (323) 351-0695 1207

**Condo for rent in Highland Park** - 2 bedrooms 1 bath, includes water, 2 car garage, gated, washer/dryer on site \$1300.00 call (323) 351-0694 or (323) 351-0695 1207

**Lone Pine House For Sale:** 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, Lg Den/Fireplace, Patio, Garage, Shed, \$240,000.00 (760) 872-4206 1207

**Guest house for rent:** Lovely refinished 2 Bedroom Rear House (very quiet). 1 Year Lease. Washington and LaBrea. \$1,350/ \$650 Deposit. Call (310) 308-1523. 1107

**El Monte Condo for sale:** 3BD/2.5BA/1511 sq.ft, 2 car garage/gated community. Being offered with seller financing, take over payments. Only 5% down, \$1995/mo. 3 months no payments. Tax benefit available. Call Rodolfo (888) 255-9999 1107

**House FOR SALE- Roseville, CA.** Built 2000, 2158 sq.ft 3-4 bdrm/2 bath 3 car garage, Indr Indry, covered patio. 90 min from Lake Tahoe. (916) 704-0088 1107

**Apartment For Rent:** Nice 1 Bedroom Apartment Inglewood, California Area. Mr. Rich (323) 296-1547 1107

**Rental in W. Lancaster:** 4 bdrm, 1.5 bath, new carpet, fresh paint, new appliances, two-story, dishwasher, washer and dryer. Sec. 8 ok. Rent is \$1600 plus low deposit. I will work with you. If interested call, (818) 776-1206. 1107

**House for rent - Pomona.** 4 Bd, 2 Ba, FR, FP W/D hkup, lrg bk yd, dbl carport, crdt chk, no pets, \$1,500 + deposit. 2553 Cathy Ave, (310) 419-0558 1007

**Palm Springs Vacation Rental.** Newly built, fully furnished in gated community. 10 minutes away from Downtown PS. Sleeps 6. Spacious master bedroom w/private bathroom. Go to www.vrbo.com/142384 1007

**House for rent:** contemporary modern style 2 beds and 1.5 baths with 1 gated parking spot & hardwood floors near chinatown, dodger stadium, gold line, little tokyo, olvera street, pasadena and downtown convenient to public transportation, freeways, markets and shopping washer and dryer on property available 9-1-07 for \$1200 a month call (323) 919-1163 807

**House for Rent.** 2bd/1ba. Large yard. Access to horse & bike trails. Pet friendly. No smoking. Near 210/605 Fwy \$1400/mo. (626) 890-7361 807

**House for Sale:** 7259 Louise Ave. Van Nuys, CA 3 Bedrooms, 2 baths, Detached Bonus room, Fireplace, 3-car garage, workshop, Private Master Suite Offered at \$579,300 Call Frieda Scott, (310) 897 7178 807

**House For Rent:** Quiet residential neighborhood in Whittier. Beautiful single story 3 bdrm, 1 bath, large kitchen, living room with fireplace, separate laundry room, detached 2 car garage, covered patio, and big yard with trees. Very clean. New carpet, tile, paint and mini blinds. Ceiling fans. Gardener included. Excellent location with convenient shopping and easy freeway access. Email pictures available. \$1,800 per month. Call Stephanie at (626) 810-6384 807

**Home for Sale:** Spacious Las Vegas 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage home with new furniture and appliances included. \$339,900. Call Nathaniel (702) 577-8926. Virtual Tour: www.tucasa360.com/vt/NB5541LonesomeBiker 707

**Playa Del Rey condo** 1 bdrm, 1 ba, 2 pk sp, laundry, walk to beach \$1500 month (310) 306-2750 607

### Household Items

**Above ground pool for sale:** 10' by 24' (4 feet deep) round metal frame pool. \$350 (originally \$650). Only used one time for a party. Contact Omar (909) 376-5176. 1107

**Used Telescope.** \$200, Galileo-1000X135. Has tripod. Manual included. Call Earl @ (323) 292-7358. 807

**Microwave Oven.** Westinghouse. 1.1 Cubic Foot, 1000 watts. Sacrifice at \$25. Call Ernest at (909) 598-1971 707

**Craftmatic Adjustable 3ft X 7ft twin size bed** electronic hand control, variable speed wave massage system, purchased 1-30-03 \$1200 call (562) 989-4664 (310) 732-4707 707

**Lamp:** 43" high antique style, brass base, beautiful amber/white glass. New condition. \$40. Call Ernest at (909) 598-1971 707

**Cross-stitched Arts** - Beautiful home décor, no frame, prices are negotiable. Call Nida & leave a message (909) 800-3207. 707

### Miscellaneous

**Power tool:** professional sliding bed tile and brick saw with the water tank and pump. 10" diamond blade and powerful electric motor. \$250.00 OBO (310) 766-4920 308

**Man's 14kt Gold Ring:** Center is a 1853 gold coin, surrounded by 18 tiny diamonds, with the emblem of Christ on the cross on each side; \$800.00 obo; Phone: 661-824-5231 or eris2001@sbcglobal.net 208

## FREE CLASSIFIED ADS FOR CLUB MEMBERS

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

You can fax to (213) 620 0598 or email to classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com We'll run your ad in the next available issue on a space available basis. Your ad may be edited for length or appropriateness.

**Cemetery:** Four plots in one lot, 1,2,3&4. Forest Lawn, Covina Hills, Golden Dawn section. \$1300 each, or all 4 for \$5000. Call 951-845-1302, ask for Richard. 208

**Chrome Rims** - set of 4, 17" Universal 100 spoke wire wheels with low profile tires. Asking \$500. Call (818) 339-5172 or e-mail estemowicab@yahoo.com. Will negotiate or trade. 208

**HEARING OFFICERS NEEDED:** The Los Angeles Fire Department is looking for retired Senior Management or Personnel Analysts to be Hearing Officers for the Brush Clearance Unit. If interested, please send resume to: kathy.dade@lacity.org 1107

**Cemetery Plots:** Forest Lawn Memorial Park - Hollywood Hills, Church Yard Section Lot 3279 -Space 3 and 4, Lot 2279 -Space 3: 5,400 each. Call Paula @ (818) 374-3385 or email: jennimalija@msn.com 807

**Bouncer House 4 Sale.** 13ft by 13 ft. Clown Themed. \$1500. Javier. (626) 917-3941 607

### Sports / Exercise

**Elliptical For Sale:** \$450 OBO. "Slightly" used Space Saver w/fan. Contact C. Starkey at ellip4sale@yahoo.com 1107

**Travel / Timeshare**

**Cabo San Lucas Timeshare for Sale:** Pueblo Bonita at Sunset Beach, 5 star resort, RCI membership, 1 bedroom, 2 bath, kitchen, sleeps 4-6. One week anytime, two weeks this year. Under priced at \$17,900. Call (760) 873-6425 or (760) 920-0032 807

**Las Vegas Grand Desert Timeshare** - for sale. Asking \$30,000 with amenities, plus 182,000 bonus points. Call (310) 522-0051. 807

**TIMESHARE RESORT RENTAL in Cancun, Mexico.** Beautiful Cancun Sunset Club, close to shops, restaurants and nightlife. 7 days \$500.00. Sleeps 4. Call Gina (818) 265-5940 home or (818) 395-3552 cell. 807

**BED AND BREAKFAST in Klamath Falls, Oregon.** For the best view of the lake and the most competitive price, come stay with us when traveling through or visiting Klamath Falls. Call Jerry Klippness and Helen Hall, 2371 Lakeshore Dr., Klamath Falls, OR 97601, (541) 850-2586. 807

### Collectibles

**Various Beanie Babies** from McDonald's \$2.00 - \$5.00 each. Call Greg (951) 235-3815. 1107

**Sports Memorabilia** - All Sports and Non-Sports Cards. 25 Cents and Up, OBO. Greg (951) 235-3815. 807

**NFL Ceramic Mugs/Tankards** - 28 Teams, LA Rams, LA Raiders, Cowboys, Dolphins, etc. Past/Present NFL Teams, 5 3/8" Tall. (805) 338-1990. 807

**ESTATE SERVICES** - Appraisal or Liquidation of Fine Art, Collectibles and Coin & Stamp Collections. Call Michael (626) 592-2929. 807

**I BUY SILVER & GOLD U.S. coin collections,** large or small. Please call Michael (626) 592-2929. 807

### Wanted

**City employee alto sax player** looking for band to jam and perform. smooth jazz, cool jazz, real book tunes, ballads, funk. lf.2005@sbcglobal.net 507

**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. Anything vintage Barbie! Call Cheryl (818) 771-4835. 807

**Wanted: YOUR TOY TRAINS,** any age, any size. Call Mike (818)-831-0846. 807

### Autos / Motorcycles / Boats



**2001 Pontiac Aztec GT SUV;** green, leather, all pwr, v6; auto; reliable transp; sunroof, very clean, 90k miles; newer tires; no accidents/smoke, custom cooler & camping tent included!! Asking \$6,300. Call (818) 775-5372 408



**Collector's Car:** Only 1500 made! 1969 Ford Torino Convertible, White exterior, red interior, black soft top 351 Windsor engine, gorgeous rims \$22,000 or best offer (818) 340-0137 308



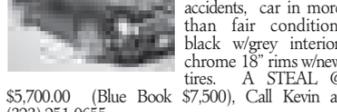
**1968 VW Bug-** classic, automatic, rebuilt engine, new tires, new shocks, \$2,800 OBO. Contact: Albert Carrillo at (213) 216-6702 307



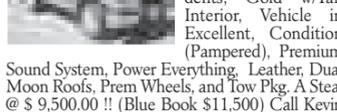
**2006 Harley Davidson Softail** For Sale: Special Custom - All Chrome, Z-Bar - Low Mileage (700 mi.) Asking \$16,000 OBO, Call (323) 697-4960 208



**1998 Lexus GS 400:** Good Condition, Clean Title, Navigation, 6-Disc CD Changer, Sun/Moonroof, Black/Black Leather Interior, Power Everything, Heated Seats, Climate Control, Traction Control, Private Party, \$8499. Serious callers (310) 480-8249 or email PjLexus@yahoo.com 208



**1998 MERCEDES E320,** 2nd Owner... no major accidents, car in more than fair condition, black w/grey interior, chrome 18" rims w/new tires. A STEAL @ \$5,700.00 (Blue Book \$7,500), Call Kevin at (323) 251-0655 208



**2002 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SERIES II,** 1 OWNER, No accidents, Gold w/Ian Interior, Vehicle in Excellent, Condition (Pampered), Premium Sound System, Power Everything, Leather, Dual Moon Roofs, Prem Wheels, and Tow Pkg. A Steal @ \$ 9,500.00 !! (Blue Book \$11,500) Call Kevin at (323) 251-0655 208



**BMW 740i,** year 2000, 132,500 miles: Leather, A/C, 14,000 O.B.O. 1107



**PLUMBING VAN FOR SALE!!** '94 Ford Econoline 350, 1 ton. Complete with tools and hardware, ready for work! Call (661) 263.7472, leave message. 1107



For sale **2006 Yamaha Silverado motorcycle,** hardly used, two tone paint only 3100 miles, two leather saddle bags, crash guard, passing light, two helmets and a leather jacket. kept in the garage all the time. For sale \$9,000.00. Call Joe (818) 288-4269 or (805) 306-0684 or email me at bunihon@yahoo.com for pictures. 1107

**1995 Cadillac Seville for sale.** \$5900.00 or B/O 62,000 orig. miles. Rebuilt Trans, new plugs & wires, new water pump & a/c comp. Call (626) 641-1478 1107

**1992 Mercedes 300SE for Sale.** Mint condition with 81K org miles. \$9500 obo. Contact Victor (310) 429-1432. 1007

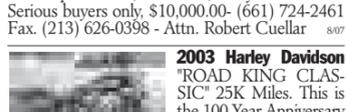
**1989 Cadillac STS for sale** - a very comfortable ride. Executive Black, less than 90Kmi. \$600 or make me an offer I can't refuse. For details leave a message at (310) 967-5987, or call (310) 763-2519 for appointment. 1007



**2002 Harley Davidson Road King:** Accessories: S & S Super G Carb and Cam Kit, Beach Bars, Sampson Exhaust, Chrome Controls, Polished Wheels, Braided Lines, Mileage: In: 12,800, Out: 18,500, Price: \$13,500 Contact: Ruben Salas (213) 792-6158 807



**1976 CHEVROLET C-10 TRUCK:** Black, short bed, minor scratches and dents, running great, \$4,000 OBO. Sergio (323) 708-3410 807



**91 Astro Bass Boat:** 135 Merc, Trolling motor, in dash dept sounder, 17' Trailer, many extras to list. Serious buyers only. \$10,000.00- (661) 724-2461 Fax: (213) 626-0398 - Attn: Robert Cuellar 807

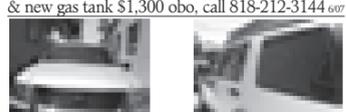


**2003 Harley Davidson "ROAD KING CLASSIC"** 25K Miles. This is the 100 Year Anniversary edition, Black with lots of chrome. 88 C.I. Motor/1450CC, Twin "RINEHART" Pipes, Fuel Injected, Twin Cam Gear drive "Not Chain Driven" Harley Davidson Race tuner with Laptop Interface/Programmable Factory Alarm & new Rubber. Asking \$16,500.00 kkaufman001@roadrunner.com 807



**1979 YAMAHA 750 SPECIAL- motorcycle.** 32,000 original miles. Black Gold, Factory saddlebags, trunk, shield, custom seat. Mint condition. \$2,000.00 OBO (626) 333-5962 707

**2005 Toyota Sienna LE,** only 10,800 miles. All power. Good condition. \$19,900. Call Kathy at (626) 821-9180. 707



**2004 TENT TRAILER,** indoor/outdoor shower, toilet, A/C, heat, microwave, fridge, stove, cable ready, CD player, sink, sleeps 6 adults, gas BBQ. \$10,000 OBO contact: lorarobert@sbcglobal.net 707



**1965 VW Bug** primered, chrome rims, new carb & new gas tank \$1,300 obo, call 818-212-3144 607



**2006 FORD EXPLORER,** 12,367 mi, all air bags, abs, full ac, ps, cc, tilt, leather, p/seats, p/windows, tint, stereo, pdl, p/mirrors, loaded! low mileage running boards- tow pkg- 3rd row seat, clean-loaded \$22,600, (562) 866-3928 607

**1968 Ford Pick-up** 1 owner orig paint &

## ENTERTAINMENT

## Reviews by Fellow Club Members

## Your Reviews

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



## 100 Words or Fewer

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

- For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For DVDs and books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: try to submit your review before the show closes.
- Have fun!
- Keep all reviews to 100 words or fewer, but try to write more than one or two sentences.
- Your own comments are more important than a long plot summary.
- Give us your score on a scale of 1 to 5. Use this format: *My Score: X (out of 5)*.
- Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit your review to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.

## MOVIE REVIEWS

**Jumper**

**Rated PG-13**  
**My Score: 3 (out of 5)**

This sci-fi thriller stars Hayden Christensen (Anakin Skywalker of *Star Wars*) as a young man, David Rice, who learns he has a genetic fluke that enables him to teleport himself anywhere in the

world in the blink of an eye. The movie also stars Samuel L. Jackson (also of *Star Wars*) as an agent hot on Christensen's trail. Jackson seems more like the leader of a group of fanatics bent on killing all those affected with that jumping capability than a government agent.

The movie develops slowly, but just enough to keep you interested. There are also a few holes in the story left unexplained, but it scores big on the special effects and entertainment value. Don't forget the popcorn!

— Chuck Beas, DWP

**Semi-Pro**

**Rated R**  
**My Score: 3 (out of 5)**

Will Ferrell plays the owner of an American Basketball Association (ABA) team. Ferrell also plays on the team and promotes the team. His team is the Tropics, and they play out of Flint,

Mich. The team is in last place, and if they can make it to fourth place the franchise will make it to the NBA. Woody Harrelson gets traded to the Tropics for a washing machine.

The movie is a good spoof on the ABA and surprisingly is funny most of the time. If you like 1970s music, there was a lot of it. Go see it.

— Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

**Welcome Home, Roscoe Jenkins**

**Rated PG-13**  
**My Score: 3 (out of 5)**

Great cast! Michael Clarke Duncan is always enjoyable to me and is very funny in this movie. Also providing a lot of humor are Michael Epps, Monique, Cedric the

Entertainer and of course Martin Lawrence. James Earl Jones doesn't provide much comedy but is always a strong presence and enjoyable.

There are laugh out loud moments, but of course not enough. A couple of jokes I thought were in bad taste. With the rising costs of going to the movies (although I give a *big thank-you* to the Club for the discount movie passes), I would wait and rent this one.

— Gail Seltzer, DWP

**College Road Trip**

**Rated G**  
**My Score: 3.5 (out of 5)**

This movie, which stars funnyman Martin Lawrence with Raven Simoné, was quirky at some times but hilarious at others. It is about a father whom, since the day his daughter was

born, has planned everything out so that his daughter would not have to leave home when she

went to college. What he hadn't counted on was his daughter making her own plans and choosing to go to a college hundreds of miles away from home. The father realizes if he did a good job raising his daughter she'll make good choices for her future. But she'll always be daddy's little girl.

— Deborah Moreno, DWP

**The Bank Job**

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

It is 1971 in London, England. Terry (Jason Statham) owns a body shop and owes money to the mob. His ex-girlfriend, Martine (Saffron Burrows), tells him about a can't-miss bank robbery

scheme that targets safe deposit boxes.

Based on a true story, this clever caper flick never disappoints. It is amusing, engrossing and fun to watch, as the heist takes place and the secrets in the safe deposit boxes involve the mob and English politics of the highest order. *The Bank Job* is one of the finest caper films I've seen in years.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

## DVD Reviews

**The Contract (2006)**

**Rated R**  
**My Score: 3 (out of 5)**

This movie stars John Cusack as a father figure and Morgan Freeman as a paid assassin. Something goes awry, and Freeman's character gets caught by a U.S. Marshal.

While he is being transported, the van crashes in the mountains, and Cusack's character, on a camping trip with his son, has to take Freeman's character back to the authorities because the US Marshal dies in the accident. It's a cat and mouse, shoot-'em-up movie with a few twists, as Cusack and his son try to avoid the other mercenaries trying to get Freeman's character back. Some parts are slow, but it's good enough for home viewing.

— Chuck Beas, DWP

**About a Son (2007)**

**Unrated**  
**My Score: 3 (out of 5)**

This documentary features recordings of dead rock star Kurt Cobain's telephonic interviews with the director set to an assortment of "day-in-the-life" scenes of the Pacific Northwest.

Cobain talks extensively about his childhood; his rock band, Nirvana; meeting wife Courtney Love; as well as his need for privacy, and his subsequent anger and disillusionment at not being allowed privacy. The cinematography is beautiful but does not always fit well with the narration. I recommend this film for Nirvana enthusiasts, and anyone interested in learning more about Kurt Cobain from his own words.

— Erin Knight, LAPD

**Michael Clayton (2007)**

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

George Clooney plays Michael Clayton, a law firm "fixer" whose world-weariness and job-dissatisfaction colors every step he takes in this film about cover-ups and the ethics of corporate law. Clooney's portrayal is perfect, and he's surrounded by an excellent cast, which includes Sydney Pollack, Tilda Swinton and Tom Wilkinson. Most of the exterior shots are overcast—misty and grey, and reflect Clayton's brooding, isolated emotional state. This film is much better than I had anticipated.

— Erin Knight, LAPD

**Deep Water (2006)**

**Rated PG**  
**My Score: 5 (out of 5)**

This documentary of a yacht race tells a story of isolation, desperation, mental illness and loss associated with obsession. A group of wealthy British yacht owners decides to create a contest to race each other around the world. To the winner would go worldwide fame and a couple thousand dollars in prize money. Quoting extensively from captain's logs and interviews with family members and sailing experts, this film follows their harrowing journey. It's a touching, surprising story that hits all the right emotional notes.

— Erin Knight, LAPD

**Eastern Promises (2007)**

**Rated "R"**  
**My Score: 2 (out of 5)**

This movie is about a Russian mafia family living in London, England. Best actor Academy nominee Viggo Mortensen plays a driver for a Russian mafia family.

Naomi Watts plays a midwife at a London hospital. Watts finds a diary on a young girl who dies giving birth, but her baby survives. Watts tries to find out where this young girl came from, and of course she is tied to the Russian mafia family.

This movie is very violent and has numerous gory scenes. There was some mystery to it, but I can't recommend it. If you do watch it, don't have children around.

— Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

**Dan in Real Life (2007)**

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

*Dan in Real Life* stars Steve Carell, Juliette Binoche and Dane Cook. Steve Carell plays an advice columnist who has the answer to life in his column, but he is having trouble in his personal life. He has been a widower for the last four years raising three girls. He finally falls in love with a woman (Juliette Binoche) who happens to be his brother's girlfriend.

I really enjoyed this movie; this was a feel-good type of comedy, and finally a movie with a good family relationship. I've seen too many movies about dysfunctional families.

— Gwen Lew, DWP

## BOOK REVIEWS

**Three Shirt Deal**

**Stephen Cannell**  
**Crime Fiction,**  
**336 pages**  
**St. Martin's Press**  
**My Score: 5 (out of 5)**

A small-time crook is doing life in California's Corcoran State Prison for the murder of his mother.

He admits to the crime, but he claims his confession was coerced by the cops. Internal Affairs detective Secada "Scout" Llevar asks Shane to investigate, and he agrees. The original homicide detective Brian Devine is a ruthless cop with whom Scully has a bad history.

The case is shut down by an LAPD deputy chief, and Shane begins to suspect that the prisoner really may have been framed by the police. The investigation spirals dangerously out of control, implicating a violent Hispanic gang, a millionaire power broker, and the front-runner in the Los Angeles mayoral race.

Meanwhile, Shane and Alexa struggle to save their marriage, since Alexa's near-fatal shooting in *White Sister*—just as Shane finds himself attracted to his new partner. Could the answer to their marital troubles be tied to the case he's investigating? In Cannell's latest heart-pounding thriller, Shane is tried in ways he has never been, risking his family, his job, and his life.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel

**The Watchman**

**Robert Crais**  
**Crime Fiction,**  
**384 pages**  
**Simon and Schuster**  
**My Score: 5 (out of 5)**

Larkin Conner Barkley is in a terrible accident. Dazed, Larkin attempts to help the other victims and finds herself the sole

witness in a secret federal investigation. She cooperates with the authorities and becomes the target for a relentless team of killers. Larkin's wealthy family turns to the one man money can't buy — Joe Pike, an ex-cop, ex-Marine and ex-mercenary who owes a bad man a favor, and that favor is to keep Larkin alive. Pike commits himself to protecting the girl, but when they immediately come under fire, he realizes someone is selling them out. Pike drops off the grid with the girl and follows his own rules of survival: strike fast, hit hard and hunt down the hunters. With the help of private investigator Elvis Cole, Pike uncovers a web of lies and betrayals, and the stunning revelation is that even the cops are not who they seem. As the body count rises, Pike's biggest threat might come from the girl herself, a lost soul in the City of Angels, determined to destroy herself unless Joe Pike can teach her the value of life ... and love.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel



# Club Store

OFFICIAL CLUB MERCHANDISE & DISCOUNT TICKETS

FOR FASTEST AND SERVICE ORDER ONLINE!  
www.cityemployeesclub.com and click on "Ticket Express"



## City Seal Hats with Script

High quality embroidered ball caps!

Member Price: **\$8** per hat\*



Seal w/Script  
BLACK: #H1613  
PRICE: \$10.00



Seal w/Script  
NAVY: #H1989  
PRICE: \$10.00



Seal w/Script  
KHAKI: #H1991  
PRICE: \$10.00



Seal w/Script  
ORANGE: #H1990  
PRICE: \$10.00

## DWP Hats



DWP Hat  
#DPWH2000  
NAVY  
PRICE: \$8.00

Member Price: **\$8** per hat\*



DWP Hat  
#DPWH3000  
BLACK  
PRICE: \$8.00

## City Department Bears



DWP  
ITEM #BDWP

General Services  
ITEM #BGSD

Each custom made "City Bear" stands 10" tall and is dressed in meticulously detailed and accurate uniforms. **Stand not included.**

Member Price: **\$20** per doll\*

\*Plus tax and shipping



Sanitation Department  
ITEM #BBOS



Street Services  
ITEM #BSTS



Department of Transportation  
ITEM #BDOT

## City Seal Lapel Pins



DWP Enamel Lapel Pin  
3/4" Diameter  
ITEM: #LP4  
PRICE: \$10.00\*



"The Classic" Enamel Lapel Pin  
3/4" Diameter  
ITEM: #LP3  
PRICE: \$10.00\*  
**Now \$8**



Gold Embossed Lapel Pin  
3/4" Diameter  
ITEM: #LP2  
PRICE: \$5.00\*



Full-Color Silkscreened Lapel Pin  
3/4" Diameter  
ITEM: #LP1  
PRICE: \$5.00\*



City of LA Hall Enamel Pin  
ITEM: #LPH1  
PRICE: \$5.00\*



City of LA Hall Silver Finish Pin  
ITEM: #LPH2  
PRICE: \$5.00\*

CHERRY WOOD BOX AVAILABLE FOR \$3.50\*

ITEM: #LPB-1



\*Plus tax and shipping

## Decals



LA City Decal, 3" Diameter  
ITEM: #DECLAC2000 • PRICE: \$2.50\*  
\*Tax included



DWP Decal, 3" Diameter  
ITEM: #DECWP1000 • PRICE: \$2.50\*  
\*Tax included

## City Seal Clock

**\$10** Each\*



ITEM: #C8003

Size: 10" Diameter  
Battery operated (AA)

\*Plus tax and shipping

## Historical Books

Club Discount Price.....\$25\*  
(\$32.95 Retail)

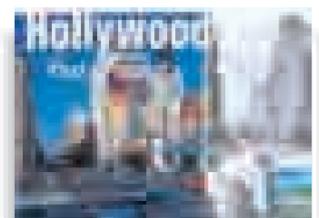
An excellent review of what these areas looked like in their humble beginnings compared to the present day. Photographs by the world famous George Ross Jezek.



Los Angeles  
Views of the Past & Present  
ITEM: #B1488



Orange County  
Views of the Past & Present  
ITEM: #B1544



Hollywood  
Views of the Past & Present  
ITEM: #B1659

## FOR EASY ORDERING OF DISCOUNT TICKETS AND CLUB MERCHANDISE:

### ONLINE

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

and click on "Club Store"



### PHONE

(888) 777-1744 (213) 620-0398

### FAX

### MAIL

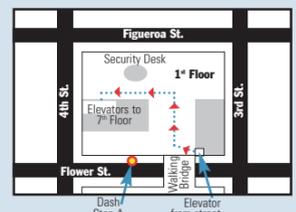
Complete the order form to and mail to:

**Ticket Guy**  
City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
350 S. Figueroa St., Ste. 700  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

### PICK-UP

350 South Figueroa St.  
Suite 700

Take the Dash "A" Route and get off at the World Trade Center stop. Take the outside elevator to the 1st floor. Go west into the building and then make a left. Take the main elevators to the 7th floor.



For Dash routes, go to: [www.ladottransit.com/dash/routes](http://www.ladottransit.com/dash/routes)

# Club Store

OFFICIAL CLUB MERCHANDISE & DISCOUNT TICKETS

## L.A. City T-shirts

**New City LA-Hall Long Sleeve T-Shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Member Price: **\$12** per shirt\*

Available Colors:  
 Navy Blue Black

Size: **3XL** \$13

Size: **4XL** \$14

ITEM: #NC1000

**New City LA-Hall Short Sleeve T-Shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Member Price: **\$8.50** per shirt\*

Available Colors:  
 Navy Blue White Black  
 Sport Gray Tan Blue Dusk

Sizes: **3XL** \$9.50

Sizes: **4XL** \$10.50

Available Colors:  
 Black Sport Gray Navy Blue

ITEM: #CN1000

**LA City "B-Label" T-Shirt (with Depts.)**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Member Price: **\$10** per shirt\*

Size: **3XL** \$13

Back

ITEM: #LAC-5000

**Long Sleeve "Classic" T-shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

Available Colors:  
 White Sport Gray Indigo Blue



Member Price: **\$15** per shirt\*

\*Plus tax and shipping

Size: **3XL**

Available Colors:  
 Sport Gray Indigo Blue

\$16

ITEM: #T1500

**LA City "B-Label" Sweatshirt (with Depts.)**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Member Price: **\$22** per shirt\*

Size: **3XL** \$23

Available Colors:  
 Navy Blue Black

ITEM: #LAC-6000

**LA City "Alma Mater" T-shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Member Price: **\$5** per shirt\*

Available Colors:  
 Gray Black Navy Blue

ITEM: #LAC-2000

**LA City T-shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Member Price: **\$7** per shirt\*

Available Colors:  
 Black Navy Blue

ITEM: #LAC-3000

**LA City "Olde English" T-shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Member Price: **\$8** per shirt\*

Available Colors:  
 Black Navy Blue

ITEM: #LAC-4000

**Short Sleeve "Classic" T-shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL (all colors)**

Available Colors:  
 Texas Orange Sport Gray White\* Leaf Green Indigo Blue  
 Light Pink Maroon Blue Dusk Orange Olive

Member Price: **\$12** per shirt\*

Non-Member Price: \$25 per shirt  
 \*Plus tax and shipping

\*White available with front pocket.

Sizes: **3XL** \$13

Available Colors:  
 White Blue Dusk Indigo Blue Sport Gray

Sizes: **4XL** \$14

Available Colors:  
 Indigo Blue Sport Gray



ITEM: #T1000

## L.A. City Polo Shirt

**LA City Polo Shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Member Price: **\$12** per shirt\*

Available Colors:  
 White Black Navy Blue Pink

Close-up of Embroidery

ITEM: #PS1000

## DWP T-shirts

**DWP "Bold" T-Shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Member Price: **\$8.50** per shirt\*

Available Colors:  
 Black Navy Blue

Front

ITEM: #T3000VFP

**DWP "Classic" Long Sleeve T-Shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL** Size: **3XL**



Member Price: **\$15** per shirt\*

\*Plus tax and shipping

Available Colors:  
 Gray

Front

ITEM: #T2500VFP

**Water & Power T-shirt**  
 Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**



Member Price: **\$10** per shirt\*

Available Colors:  
 White Navy Blue Black Orange

Front

ITEM: #T2002WFP



Available Colors:  
 White\* Navy Blue Black Orange

\*White available with front pocket.

Front

ITEM: #T2003WFP



Member Price: **\$12** per shirt\*

Available Colors:  
 White Navy Blue Black Orange



Sizes: **S M L XL 2XL**

\*White available with front pocket.

Available Colors:  
 White\* Orange Blue Dusk Charcoal

Size: **3XL** AVAILABLE COLORS: Blue Dusk, Charcoal

\$13

Front

ITEM: #T2000WFP

# Club Store

OFFICIAL CLUB MERCHANDISE & DISCOUNT TICKETS

FOR FASTEST AND SERVICE AND DELIVERY  
**ORDER ONLINE!**  
 www.cityemployeesclub.com  
 and click on "Ticket Express"

## Women's T-shirts

City Women's - LA Hall V-Neck T-Shirt  
 Sizes: **S M L XL**

Member Price:  
**\$8**  
 per shirt\*

Available Colors:



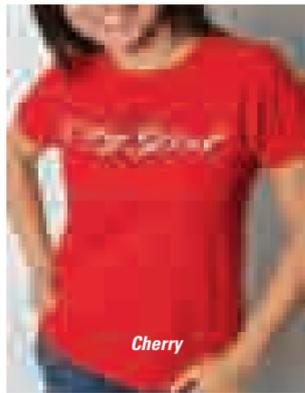
(On white shirt, emblem is pink)



ITEM: #S1000

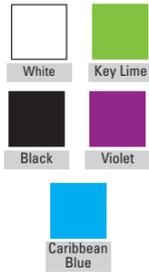
City Girl "Classic" T-shirt  
 Sizes: **S M L XL**

Member Price:  
**\$10**  
 per shirt\*



ITEM: #T-W1000

V-Neck Style Colors:



Crew Neck Style Colors:



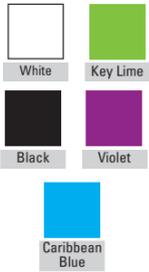
City Girl "Retro" T-shirt  
 Sizes: **S M L XL**

Member Price:  
**\$10**  
 per shirt\*



ITEM: #T-W2000

V-Neck Style Colors:



Crew Neck Style Colors:



## Watches with City Seal

These watches have been meticulously crafted using only high-quality quartz movements. These new diver watches are made from solid stainless steel and genuine leather.



**Men's Watch, Leather Band**  
 ITEM: #SF2000  
 PRICE: \$25.00\*



**Men's Watch, Leather Band**  
 ITEM: #SF1000  
 PRICE: \$25.00\*



**Men's Watch, Silver Band**  
 ITEM: #RF1000  
 PRICE: \$25.00\*



**Lady's Watch, Silver Band**  
 ITEM: #WRF2000  
 PRICE: \$25.00\*



**Men's Watch, Silver**  
 ITEM: #WGS3000  
 PRICE: \$50.00\* **Now \$25**



**Lady's Watch, Two-tone gold and silver**  
 ITEM: #WGSV1000  
 PRICE: \$50.00\* **Now \$25**



**Men's Large Seal, Stainless Steel Band**  
 ITEM: #WS2500  
 PRICE: \$55.00\*



**Men's Large Seal, Leather Band**  
 ITEM: #WL2600  
 PRICE: \$45.00\*



**Men's Small Seal, Stainless Steel Band**  
 ITEM: #WS2501  
 PRICE: \$55.00\* **Now \$40**



**Men's Small Seal, Leather Band**  
 ITEM: #WL2601  
 PRICE: \$45.00\* **Now \$35**



**Men's Small DWP Seal, Stainless Steel Band**  
 ITEM: #DWPWS2700  
 PRICE: \$55.00\* **Now \$40**



**Men's Small DWP Seal, Leather Band**  
 ITEM: #DWPW3050  
 PRICE: \$45.00\* **Now \$35**



\*Plus tax and shipping

### FOR EASY ORDERING OF DISCOUNT TICKETS AND CLUB MERCHANDISE:

#### ONLINE

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

and click on "Club Store"



#### PHONE

(888) 777-1744 (213) 620-0398

#### FAX

#### MAIL

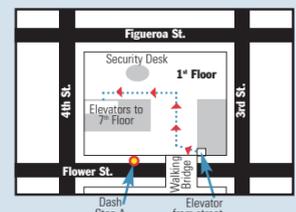
Complete the order form to and mail to:

**Ticket Guy**  
 City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
 350 S. Figueroa St., Ste. 700  
 Los Angeles, CA 90071

#### PICK-UP

350 South Figueroa St. Suite 700

Take the Dash "A" Route and get off at the World Trade Center stop. Take the outside elevator to the 1st floor. Go west into the building and then make a left. Take the main elevators to the 7th floor.



For Dash routes, go to: [www.ladottransit.com/dash/routes](http://www.ladottransit.com/dash/routes)



# GRAND OPENING NEW CLUB STORE MAY 1, 2008

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

We are making the Club Store more accessible to you. Stop by for a visit.

We Have

Discount Tickets  
Available for:

- Movie Tickets
- Amusement Parks
- City Merchandise
- City Apparel
- Sporting Events

Closer to City Hall

Across from New LAPD & CALTRANS

## Our New Location

120 W 2nd St  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Across from the new LAPD Headquarters  
- Between Spring St. and Main St.)

