

DOT Comes Up Roses

■ Department works with Pasadena to help ease traffic during Rose Bowl and parade.



Officer Mendoza, Hollywood Division, 6.5 years

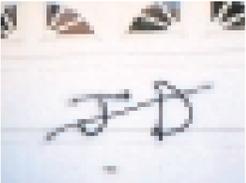
This year, on New Year's Day, traffic officers from DOT were to work under contract with the City of Pasadena to help solve the legendary traffic snafus that accompany the annual Tournament of Roses parade and the Rose Bowl football game.

The contract was approved in early November by the City Council. The City of Pasadena will reimburse LA for the costs; work-

See Rose Bowl, Parade, Page 25

Terrorism Hits City Workers

■ Animal Services employees are targeted, just for doing the job the City asks them to do. Should hate crime laws include protection of City workers?



Criminals vandalized the home of Animal Services' Jackie David on Christmas Eve.

Jackie David, *Alive!* columnist and public information director of the Animal Services Dept., should have spent most of January performing the duties she loves ... and is paid to do by the City: helping solve the City's problem of connecting people who want pets, to those pets that need homes. And making sure those pets are spayed and neutered.

The City needs that duty performed, as there are just too many animals.

But instead, she has spent most of the first month of the year working with the LAPD and

See Terrorism, Page 31



Power Restored!

■ The DWP took control to solve power outages during January's record torrential rainstorms. Safety was the buzzword as crews worked under treacherous conditions. Public Works crews played a big role, too.

When the lights went out in the hilltop community of Mt. Olympus during a record-setting rainstorm in early January, Department of Water and Power (DWP) electric crews arrived at the scene of what one foreman could only describe as "a mess."

DWP electrical line patrolmen found toppled trees, broken power poles, downed wires and transformers in at least four different locations of Mt. Olympus in the early

See Power Restored, Page 20

Jim Thomas, EDM West LA Yard, along with another DWP worker, assesses a situation with power lines down at Mt. Olympus in the Hollywood Hills. City employees worked hard to restore power to parts of the City.



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Alive!

February 2005 • Volume 4 – No. 2

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



Ahh, February; The Month of Love.

That's right, Valentines Day is upon us (February 14th!). Please don't forget to impress the one you love with a nice bouquet of flowers, a gift certificate to Home Depot or to a spa, or at least a Valentine's Day card that gets to your loved one before you get home from work on this special day (oh, and if you're buying flowers make sure you use the Club's discount with 1-800-flowers.com; see page 33).



And speaking of sharing the love, I want to give a big thank-you to the hardworking employees of the DWP for helping us all out during the storms and the resulting damage (please read the story starting on page one). I personally witnessed the hard work and perseverance of the DWP crews that were dispatched to trouble spots during the latest storm. In particular, the Mt. Olympus area, where many large trees fell onto power lines snapping them in two like they were little twigs. The result was numerous massive tangles of high-voltage lines and transformers mixed in with giant uprooted trees and then strewn throughout the streets, yards and on parked cars. And as the storm raged on I watched as the DWP Tree Surgeons meticulously chain-sawed the fallen trees that were tangled in high voltage lines and the DWP Electric Trouble crews repairing power lines and poles.

So once again, the City employees of Los Angeles showed the world what they are made of. From the DWP battling a violent storm to restore the power, to the DOT, Fire & Police Departments helping our Glendale neighbors in a horrific train crash; to various city departments helping Tsunami victims through charity drives. Every single City employee should feel proud to be part of this family. You are truly a City of Angels.

John

— jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

Numbers YOU CAN USE

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City Employees Retirement System	(213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328	Los Angeles Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480	Los Angeles Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
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City of L.A. Clerical and Support Services Union, Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 EXT. 340	Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association	(888)288-5073
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593	Office Depot Discount Hotline	(818) 837-2524
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DWP Employees Assn.	(213) 367-3146	Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
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Have a number you'd like us to include? Send it in: alive@cityemployeesclub.com



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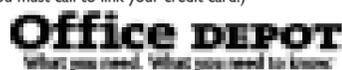
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LETTERS to the Editor

When Madea Goes to Jail, Ticket Guy Goes to the Top

Hi Navin [Ticket Guy], we had wonderful seats to Tyler Perry's Madea Goes to Jail. Thank you for the service you provide to the employees and their families. My mother, friends and family enjoyed the play. Thanks again. You are wonderful.

— Ronda Phillips-Hudson, Club Member

He Is Floored at Poor Condition Of City Hall Roofs During Rains

As an employee of one of the country's largest cities, I am appalled at the condition that my floor is in at City Hall.

Yes, the building has been retrofitted. Yes, many of the halls have been refurbished to their original luster. But, someone forgot to recondition the roofs. The heavy rains of recent weeks have shown that they are not watertight. I have been privy to damaged ceilings and walls along with swamp-like moisture in the carpets, and I have been relegated to a typewriter because my computer was destroyed by water damage.

Fortunately, I'm not the only one. There are several other offices that have been damaged by the rain running down pipes and vents including five of the City Council offices. A fellow staff member was almost hurt when ceiling tiles came down on her desk. Fortunately, no one was injured.

— Frank Tutata, LAFD

Leno Appeared at a Holiday Party, But the Mayor Did Not

How is it that the mayor can't ever make it to City employee events even when his people promised his attendance, yet Jay Leno can? I'm referring to the last issue of your *Alive!* newspaper, where Jay was featured on the front cover at an LAPD PSR Holiday party.

I tell you what, Jay Leno is a hero in my book. I heard that he even stayed for most of the party taking pictures with City employees and their families. Way to go, Jay, and shame on you, Jim!

WRITE TO US TODAY!

Send your letters by email to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or conventionally:
The Club, World Trade Center, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

(Oh and by the way, there's more to making this City great than your perpetual glad-handing; go out and get something done!)

— Jimmy Tomlin, Club Member

Zookeepers Do Great Job In Caring for the Animals

I just wanted to compliment the L.A. Zoo on hiring such caring zookeepers. I learned while visiting the Zoo that a senior chimpanzee is suffering from congestive heart failure. I am impressed by the animal care and veterinarians who are seeing to it that the chimpanzee remains in good hands.

I am truly impressed by the commitment to care and treatment of the fascinating creatures at the Zoo.

By the way, I'm happy to see some improvements being made to the landscape.

— Heidi Logan, DWP

The Club's Cecilia Camacho Came Through When Needed

The service I received was excellent. Any question I asked was answered professionally and with much concern. As a manager, I can say whomever is in charge can be very proud at the staff.

In Nov. 2003 I was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. I had signed up for Longterm Disability insurance in the early 1980s. I wasn't sure how the premiums worked, so I called the Club. I was entitled to collect monies for this policy, but only because one of your workers went through the policy and helped me out. This has truly help us to get through our financial crisis.

— Lynn Wickliffe, Club

Thanks, Lynn, for your nice comments. The person who helped you was Cecilia Camacho, the Club's claims administrator. Those interested in long term disability insurance can get all the information they need from their Counselor. You never know when you'll need longterm disability insurance. —Ed.



Cecilia Camacho, Club Claims Administrator

The Word on the Street

You probably won't get to meet Club Claims Administrator Cecilia Camacho 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.

The service I received from Cecilia was valuable and excellent. She explained that it was not necessary for relatives to be involved, to not put any pressure or stress related to the death of the deceased. All that was necessary was for me to sign for funeral payoff with the mortuary. That was a blessing for me to know that all payments would be taken care of."

— Minnie Higginbotham
December 2004

The service was good, good, good. You were there when I needed your help in all matters. May God bless and help you, Ms. Camacho. You are the best."

— Rosetta White
December 2004

It's good the people that work for the company are very helpful. The people answer the questions that I asked and tried to make sure I understood the answer."

— Gloria Cypers
December 2004

I am always pleased with the City Club's customer service, which has me on the status of being a continuous member. Thanks for all your help, City Club. I'm proud to be a member."

— Sheka Wilson
December 2004

I rate the service that I have received as 'excellent.' Cecilia Camacho was very patient in explaining the service. She answered all my questions regarding my need. She was very comforting through all my application. She is a godsend."

— Roberto Andrade
December 2004

THANKS

Shout Outs !!!!!

Thank you Ed Harding, RLACEI (Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc.) President, for the wonderful holiday party at the Grace Simons Lodge. It was so nice to see my fellow retirees in surroundings of such joy and love.

— Sharon Turnrey

Thank you once again Eric Robles for helping out with the City Hall Tree Lighting Ceremony. You're the best!

— Tom Wilkins

Thank you Julian Campbell (Bureau of Sanitation) for helping me out with the Bulk Item information while you were on your collection route.

— John Hawkins

Mike Spiro, I really appreciated that Starbucks you bought me the other day!

— Todd Wilkins

Kudos to Bev!

We love it when one of our employees really serves a Club member in the right way. Here's a letter from a customer who's more than satisfied. Way to go, Bev!

I want to personally thank Club Counselor Beverly Haro for taking the time to come to our location and make her insightful presentation. Her mannerism is very professional and informative. Her service helps to better our lives. We appreciate her expertise. I hope that she will be our representative for a long time.

— Joey Johnson, Asst. Supervisor
West Los Angeles Field Groups

Want to thank your co-worker for a job well done?

We'll take care of it! Just email us at shoutout@cityemployeesclub.com

Badges of Honor

In our article last month, we inadvertently left off two important pictures (they're actually all important to us!). Here they are:



From left: Jimmy Hill, Fire Marshal, points out the badge of honor worn by Jeffrey Arnold, Inspector I.



Captain Robert Knight.

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New Clerk in Town

■ Frank Martinez is new City Clerk.

Frank Martinez was appointed to Los Angeles City Clerk Oct. 4, after serving four years as the City Clerk's Executive Officer. He provides executive management oversight for the diverse functions of the City Clerk's Office including legislative support, municipal elections, records management, property ownership and business improvement districts.

He has worked for the City in a variety of administrative and management positions for 27 years. During his tenure with the City, he has worked in the community development, municipal facilities and fleet support, information technology, legislative support and municipal election areas. He has also managed several Citywide special projects including the City's Y2K Compliance Project and the 2000 Democratic National Convention.

Frank holds a Bachelor's degree in sociology from the California State University at Northridge, a Master's degree in public administration from the California State University at Los Angeles, and certificates in executive education from UCLA and California State University at Long Beach.

The Club congratulates Frank on his important promotion and for a job well done!



Frank Martinez, recently appointed City Clerk.

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History Comes Alive!



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

A Storied History



History of City government to become a nonfiction book for the first time.

The history of Los Angeles city government dates back to April 4, 1850, when it became an incorporated city. Over the course of those 155 years, the running of City government was held in five different official City buildings beginning in 1853. Unofficial story has it that the first three years the Common Council (as it was originally called) met in various homes of the local inhabitants, which numbered about 1600 within its jurisdictions.

The complete recorded history of Los Angeles City government can be found in the Los Angeles City Archives within the City Clerk's Records Management Division at Piper Technical Center. As City archivist and then records management officer, I felt it was important for citizens, researchers, scholars and governmental employees to know about the dynamic government history of the nation's second largest city. Thus was born the two-volume work entitled *The Evolution of Los Angeles City Government: An Institutional Memory, 1850-2000*. This work will be published later this year. The following is a capsule overview of the project.

An ambitious seven-year project to narrate the history of Los Angeles City government is moving close to completion with 24 chapters, prologue, epilogue and appendices comprising the two-volume work. No comprehensive governmental history of the nation's second largest city has previously been written, leaving a gap in the historical record of United States urban development. This massive study is intended to serve that need. It also provides specific reasons for creation of the great variety of councils

and commissions, departments and divisions, that came into being over a time span of 150 years, and profiles of the leaders who made them succeed or fail.

Sponsored by the Los Angeles City Historical Society, the history examines all aspects of the City, such as its structure, constitution, administration, finances, courts, public safety, health, education, recreation, parks, libraries, harbors and airports, and water supply. Additionally, it examines planning enterprises dealing with development, transportation, housing and human services. Unique aspects are inclusion of chapters on population changes, ethnicity, inter-governmental relations and global influences on City government.

It is the work of more than 30 authors, all prominent interpreters of their areas, and eight associate editors. The authors include established historians, political scientists, educators and governmental administrators who were experts in the topics assigned to them. A prologue and epilogue were written, respectively, by Dr. Doyce B. Nunis Jr., longtime editor of the *Southern California Historical Quarterly*, and Dr. Raphael Sonenshein, distinguished California State University, Fullerton political scientist and executive director of the City of Los Angeles Appointed Charter Reform Commission.

This publication will contribute to a far better understanding of the development of the City and provide the necessary knowledge and perspective for determining its future. It should, therefore, appeal to a wide variety of groups and individuals throughout Southern California. Because of the book's unique structure, its utility for comparison to other metropolitan areas, and the current growing national interest in Los Angeles, it will be a valuable tool for scholars and governmental officials nationwide and be a library fixture.

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Retirees NEWS

Retiree Hotlines

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

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

City Retirement Counselors:

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

DWP Retirement Plan Office: (213) 367-1722

For Retirees *By Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair*

MEMBER NEWS

Bill and Helen Thomas, San Pedro, celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary in September. Bill was a classmate of Phil Skarin at North Hollywood High ...

Frances and Ion Cota, Bodfish, Calif., celebrated their 57th in October. Frances traveled to Strasbourg, France, for the wedding of their granddaughter Laura ...

Robert and Evelyn each had several surgeries last year, but now they are doing great! ...

Ken Smuland, Palm Desert, says, "I appreciate the good work you are doing." Robert Sanchez says "Thanks for your efforts" ...

Warren Hageman, Rocklin, Calif., serves on the Board of Appeals for the City of Rocklin ...

Mark Fuller, Alhambra, is active in the Masonic High 12 Club ...

Margie Anselmo and her son, **Scott**, live in Sun City, Arizona, a Del Web Sr. Community. Excerpts from her two-page letter are: I belong to Lakes West Golf Course, 7 different bridge clubs, play bridge 7 days a week, took cruises to Alaska, Hawaiian Islands, down the Danube thru the 7 Eastern European countries then to Vienna and Budapest." She says hi to everyone. You can say hi to her by calling (623) 875-6754 ...

Jane Hanson, Hemet, just bought a keyboard that will play pipe organ songs or hymns. If you need cheering up, call Jane at (951) 658-4819. I can vouch for it.

If you have news about yourself or other retirees that you'd like to share,

send it to **Phil Skarin**

5301 Norwich Ave.,
Van Nuys, CA 91411-3910, or
phone (818) 784-0130 or
fax (818) 906-3722.



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

Rainbows

People are like rainbows

With colors to match their character.

With time, the brighter colors tend to

soften a bit,

And others form delightful new shades

and nuances.

May the treasure at the end of your

rainbow

Always be a heart of gold.

— *Phil Skarin*



LACERS Fund Is Biggest in History



Ed Harding,
RLACEI President

Retiree's Corner by Phil Skarin, RLACEI Publicity Chair

Ed Harding, RLACEI President, thanks the members who had enough faith in him and the other incumbent officers to elect us to another term of office. With these experienced members of our Executive Board, Ed envisions a productive year as we work for the benefit of retirees and their spouses. Ed asks you to plan to attend the next Membership Meeting April 14 and the Annual Corporation Meeting and Elections Oct.

13, both at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks Senior Center.

Legislative Update: Ken Spiker, our elected member of LACERS Board of Directors, is very pleased to report the LACERS fund has reached an all-time high of \$8.24 billion.

Ken passes along these statistics regarding City retirees

- Total value of the fund: \$8.24 billion
- Number of retiree checks issued monthly: 14,350
- Average retiree monthly allowance: \$2,361.93
- Median retiree monthly allowance: \$1,981.26
- Number of retirees receiving a disability allowance: 857
- Number of surviving spouses receiving an allowance: 3,144
- Average surviving spouses receiving an allowance: 1,343.40
- Median retiree age: 71.87
- Average retiree age: 71.46
- Average number of years served (including buyback, service retirement only): 26.72

For Your Information: If you change address, notify Helen Salgado at (323) 728-4930, or write to her at 5423 Dewar St., Los Angeles, CA 90022. Also notify LACERS and *Alive!*

The L.A. City Employees Retirement System is at 360 E. Second St., Los Angeles, CA 90012. Phone (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. Contact them to arrange Direct Deposit of your retirement checks, change your withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health

plans.

Website: Hal Danowitz asks you to visit our Website at www.rlacei.com to find the latest retirement news. It will be updated regularly.

Golf Classic: Our Annual Retirees Golf Classic will again be at the Alhambra Golf Course June 14. Sponsors are needed to help keep the entry fees reasonable. If you can be a sponsor, contact Phil Skarin at (818) 784-0130.

Driver Safety: Elliott Adelman supplied the following information. In two four-hour sessions, the AARP Driver Safety course helps us to recognize the changes that take place in our vision, hearing and reflexes as we grow older, and make appropriate adjustments in our driving habits. It includes a review of many sections of the California Vehicle Code that we need to know when taking the license renewal test. California requires auto insurance companies to give a three-year premium discount to drivers completing the course. To locate a class near you, call (888) 227-7669. For more info, log on to www.aarp.org/drive.

Upcoming events:

- **Membership Meeting: April 14**
- **Annual Retirees Golf Classic: June 14**
- **Annual Corporation Meeting and Elections: Oct. 13**

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE

Are you currently concerned about your money? In these volatile times, how can different asset classes help manage your growth and risk expectations? James Olson and Kevin Wright, Financial Advisors, can prepare your free portfolio evaluation. This evaluation will help you identify risks and develop an investment strategy. For a personalized asset allocation report classifying your current holdings contact James or Kevin today.

5800 Canoga Avenue, Suite 100
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
818-356-2810



Asset allocation/investment strategy cannot eliminate the risk of fluctuating prices and uncertain returns.

YES! I'm interested in my free portfolio evaluation.

Name: _____

Address: _____

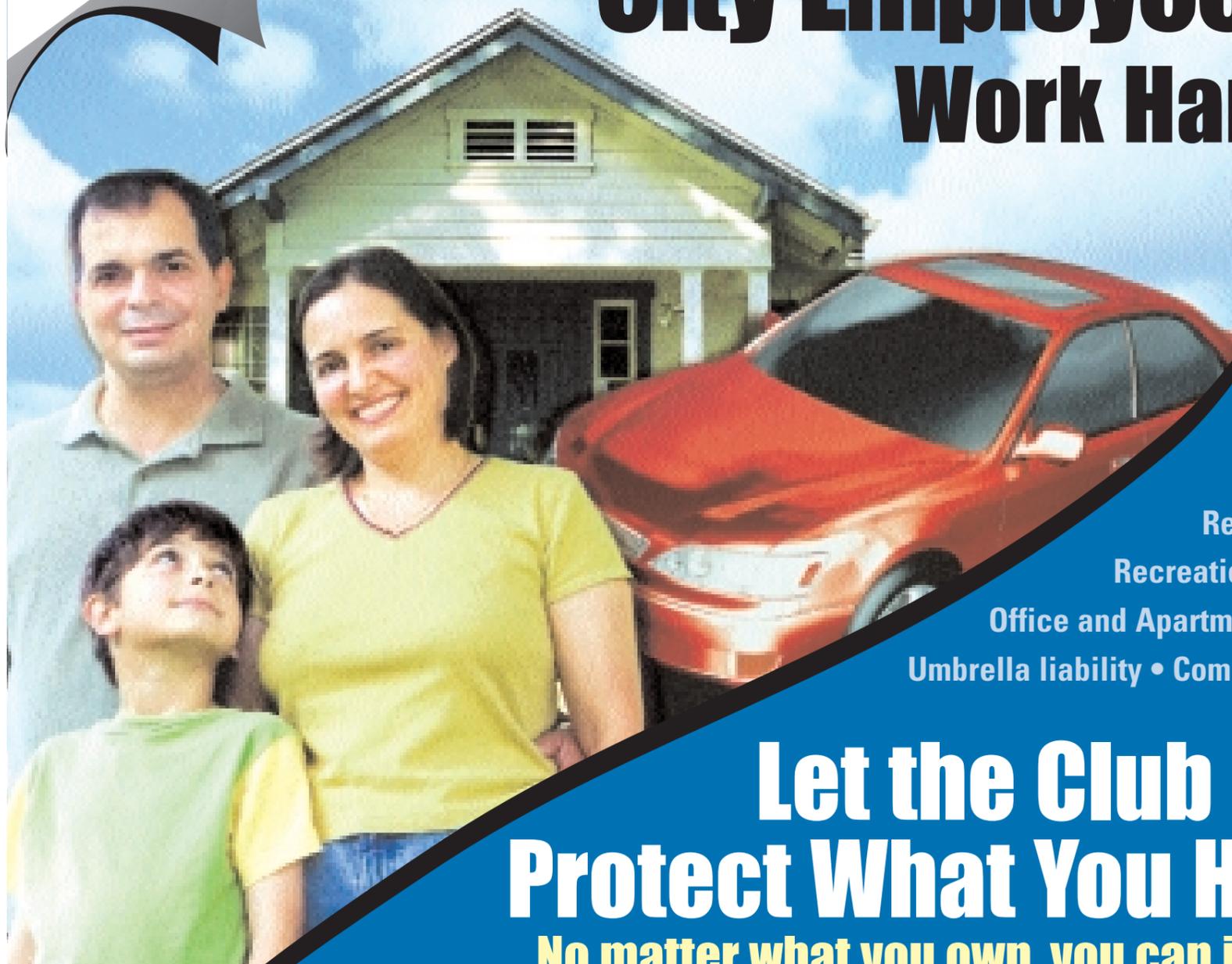
Phone: (Daytime) _____ (Evening) _____

E-mail: _____

Raffle!
(See below)

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

(800) 640-1712

Have these things handy, to be ready to save:

- Your Club membership ID number
- Your current policy

Offered through the Club's partner, Crusberg Decker Insurances Services, Inc., CAD01 #0D91080. Offices in Pasadena, Montclair, Corona and Lancaster. This program representing the following California admitted insurers: • Alliance United Insurance Services • Allied Insurance Co. • Civil Service Employees Insurance Co. • Explorer Insurance Co. • F.A.C.T. • Hartford Insurance Co. • Infinity Insurance Co. • Mercury Insurance Group • Millennium Insurance Co. • Progressive Insurance Co. • Safeco

Club Insurance Raffle Entry Form

Everyone who fills out the coupon below and sends it in to the Club insurance partner will be eligible to win four free passes to Disneyland. **SECOND PRIZE:** \$50 gift certificate to the Disney Store. Two forms will be chosen. No purchase necessary. One entry per Club Member only - UPON COMPLETION OF QUOTATION. Winners need not be present to win.

**ENTRY
DEADLINE:
3/31/2005**

Name: _____ Club Member ID #: _____

Day phone #: _____ Evening phone #: _____ E-mail address: _____

Home address: _____

What kind of insurance are you looking for? _____

MAIL YOUR ENTRY TO:

Crusberg Decker Insurance Services, Inc. • 285 N. Hill Avenue #200, Pasadena, CA • 91106, or fax to: (626) 585-8517.

Low Cost Premiums!
Fast Approvals!

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**4 passes to
Disneyland**



— just for looking into
your insurance needs!

Read the rules on the
raffle entry form.



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

Where in LA?

WIN \$50 Claim Jumper RESTAURANT CERTIFICATE

New Photo ... Same Great Prize

Get ready for another great contest. We wish you could all win!

For February, we're keeping the same great prize: a \$50 gift certificate to Claim Jumper Restaurant. Excellent, you say! All you have to do is send in a correct and substantial answer (in your own words) to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com, and you could win!

**What is this?
Where is this?**



The Club member who gives us the most complete, detailed description of the object related to the City of Los Angeles wins the great prize!

- This month's deadline: February 14. See complete list of rules at bottom right.
- Thanks for playing, and good luck!

Send your response along with your Club card number by e-mail whereinla@cityemployeesclub.com), by fax ([213] 620-0598) or by surface mail (350 S. Figueroa, Suite 700, Los Angeles 90071).

The winner of last month's contest is: **Mike Fennessey,**

Labor Supervisor, Northern Aqueduct, LADWP



The piece of iron pictured in the photo on page 12 of the *Alive!* newspaper is from the lower lobby floors of the World Trade Center and is the largest piece of the world trade center west of the Mississippi River. It was placed as a monument to fallen firefighters and rescue personnel and is located at Frank's Place, firefighter slang for the Los Angeles Fire Department Academy in the Griffith Park area of the city. Various city departments pitched in to dig substantial footings and erect the monument with a crane and riggers. The monument is also a testament to the 66+ members of the L.A.F.D. Urban Search & Rescue, also known as California Task Force 1, that were dispatched by President Bush and Governor Davis on Sept. 11, 2001 to assist in the rescue efforts and worked for close to 2 weeks around the clock.

RUNNER UPS:

- Victor Gomez, Department of Transportation
- Frank Gomez, Fire Department
- Rosa G. Ronquillo, Fire Department
- John Sapone Jr., Bureau of Street Services
- Ken Moody, Department of Information Technology
- Mary Jaco, Department of General Services

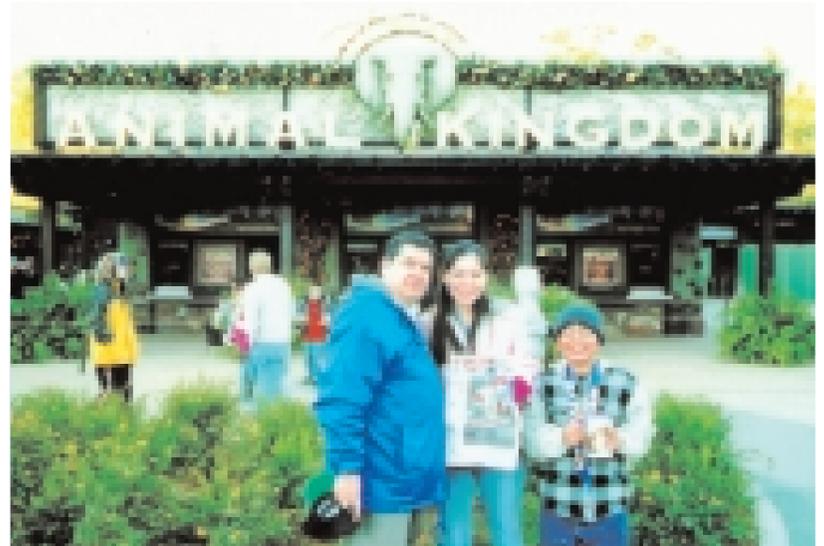
Contest Rules:

1. Winning contestants must be Club members in good standing. Everyone is welcome to submit responses, however. (Responses without Club membership numbers will be accepted but not eligible for the winning prize.)
2. Responses can be delivered by mail, fax, e-mail or in person (phone responses will not be accepted).
3. Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
4. 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.

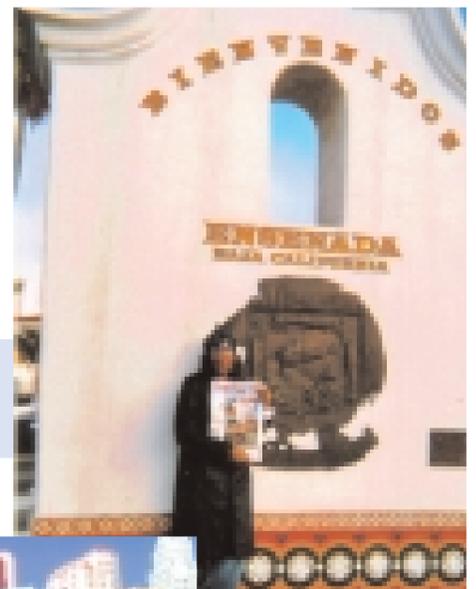
Alive! Around the World

You travel the world. So does *Alive!*

This month's hardy band of Club travelers included the following, who took *Alive!* with them on their trip outside Los Angeles. Thanks for sending them in!



Club Member **Martín Chavez**, Harbor Dept., took his niece and nephew, Regina and Joseph, to DisneyWorld in Florida. "And we nearly froze our butts off," Martín reports. Here are the three standing in front of a DisneyWorld attraction.



Club Member **Myra Walker** holds her *Alive!* in Ensenada, Mexico, on a recent trip there.



Club Member **Christina Tabirara** holds *Alive!* outside New York, New York in Las Vegas.

Here's the deal:

- Take your copy of *Alive!* with you on your trip. It can be anywhere outside Los Angeles. Anywhere else in California, the country, the world is acceptable.
- Take a photo of yourself, friends, family, etc., holding a copy of *Alive!* in a fun place: anywhere exotic and different. The more famous, the better, but all places acceptable.
- Tell us your name, your City department, and the names of those in the photo.
- Send in the photo, either digitally (please keep the size reasonable, not too big, not too small) or a paper print. (Make sure to write your name and address on the back of the photo, so we can return it to you). Send them to:
Digital photos: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
Paper photos: *Alive!* Around the World, City Employees Club, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

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John's Picture Perfect Contest

Introducing Alive!'s Picture Perfect Contest

Do you have a favorite snapshot that you've taken? Send it in to Club CEO John Hawkins, and you could win!

Every month we'll pick a winning shot. The winning photographer will receive a \$50 gift certificate.

Every issue will have a submission deadline, but you can enter in any month ... and re-enter if your photograph was not chosen.

"I can't wait to see your great photos," John says. "Go ahead: Impress me!"

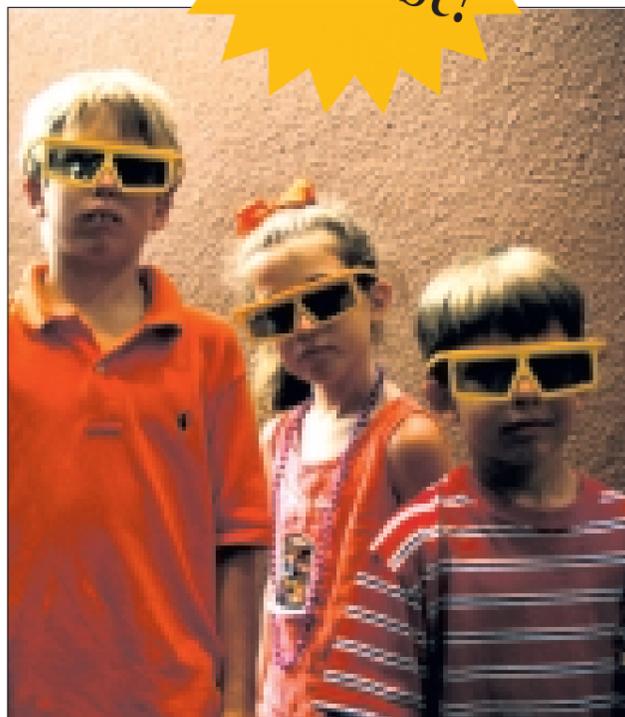
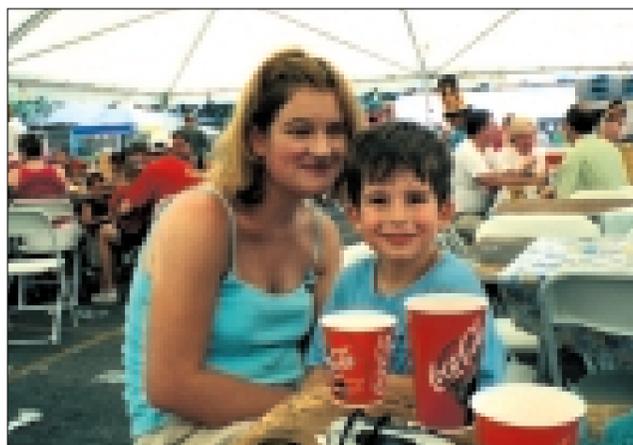
Read the rules below to the left, and happy snapping!

April Alive! Deadline:
March 14

WIN \$50 Best Buy gift certificate

Photo Contest Rules:

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



A New Contest!

Photo Contest

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

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CRUISE INTO HISTORY® aboard an Authentic Sternwheeler Cruise Ship. Experience a voyage of discovery that is rich in history and enrichment with close-up views of scenery and wildlife.

7-Night Path of the Explorers

November 20, 2005 and December 21, 2005

Special Holiday Sailings on the Empress of the North
From just \$797 on Christmas sailing (if booked early)

7-Night Three Great Rivers

October 8, 2005 – Sail on the Queen of the West

Follow the footsteps of Lewis & Clark and Oregon Trail Pioneers
From \$2191 (if booked early) **Save over \$1140 per person!**

Cruise 1,000 miles and transit 8 locks and dams along the Columbia, Snake and Willamette Rivers. Roundtrip from Portland.

- All shore excursions included
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All rates are per person, double occupancy, subject to availability and capacity controlled. Port charges and handling fees of \$134 not included. Air not included. Certain restrictions may apply. CST #2068338-40

Holiday Wrap-up

Calamari Makes Annual Appearance

■ Port of LA threw its famous annual employees breakfast.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

The Port of LA's Construction and Maintenance Division fried up lots of calamari – as is the division's tradition – as part of its annual Employees Breakfast for family and friends.

The event was held Wednesday, Dec. 22, at the C&M yard in Wilmington.

More than 200 pounds of the stringy seafood were cooked this year!

The Club thanks employee Rene Perez for assisting us, and we thank C&M for inviting us to your annual employee breakfast.



The C&M 2004 Annual Breakfast Volunteers. In back, from left: Tony Samanieco, Painter, 15 years; Rich Blake, Painter, 15 years, Club Member; Mike Sestich, Boat Shop Leadman, 12 years, Club Member; Willie Brown, Carpenter, 5 years; Mark Weisenberger, Storekeeper, 15 years; Pauline Hospe, Pilot Station, 20 years; Tom Theprasit, Mechanic, 1.5 years, Club Member; and Federico Ramirez, Roofer, 2 years. Middle: Nokola Jurat, Carpenter, 7.5 years; George Jackson, Electrician, 30 years; (seated: Steve Karsten, Plumber, 4 years; John Radovcich, Boat Carpenter, 4 years, Club Member); Ante Basich, Ship Carpenter, 6 years, Club Member; and Ricardo Concepcion, AC Mechanic, 4 years. Front: Angel Jeronimo, Pile Driver, 3 months, Club Member; Rene Perez, Acting Lead Carpenter, 8 years, HDEC President, Club Member; Tish Lorenzana, Sr. MA, 25 years; Mimi Gutierrez, Civil Engineering Associate, 1.6 years, Club Member; Phillip Sandoval, Painter, 20 years; Alan Mayse, Equipment Repair Supervisor, 24 years; and Ping Lit, Civil Engineering Associate, 17 years.



Back, from left: Alan Mayse, Equipment Repair Supervisor, 24 years; Gilbert Atkinson, Construction Service Worker, 2 years, Club Member; and Federico Ramirez, Roofer, 2 years. Front: Pauline Hospe, Pilot Station, 20 years; Tish Lorenzana, Sr. MA, 25 years; Rich Blake, Painter, 15 years, Club Member; Mimi Gutierrez, Civil Engineering Associate, 1.6 years, Club Member; and Angel Jeronimo, Pile Driver, 3 months, Club Member, who was in charge of the "made-to-order machaca."



Back, from left: Ingrid and Eugene Thompson, Electrician, 2.5 years. Seated: their children Cory and Julie Thompson.



From left: James Henning, Electrician, 7.5 years; Mark Weisenberger, Storekeeper, 15 years; and George Jackson, Electrician, 30 years.



Back, from left: Barbara and Ron Price, Sheetmetal Worker, 7 years. Front: their children Samori and Ayisha.



From left: Calvin Chin, Retired Cabinet Maker, 32 years, Club Member. Right side of table, from left: Dave Chrisman, Carpenter Supervisor, 28 years, Club Member; and Holly Carlson, Construction & Maintenance, Club Member.



The left side of the table, from left: Anthony Di Tucci, Captain of Angelina II; and Tony Samanieco, Painter, 15 years. On the right: John Radovcich, Boat Carpenter, 4 years, Club Member.



From left: Mike Sestich, Boat Shop Leadman, 12 years, Club Member; Andrew Di Tucci, Volunteer; and Nikola Jurat, Carpenter, 7.5 years. Nikola was in charge of placing the batter on the calamari.



From left: Pablo Ninofranco, Electrical Associate, 31 years, Club Member; Robel Afewerki, Civil Engineering Associate, 12 years, Club Member; and Du Tran, Mechanical Engineering Associate, 18 years, Club Member.



From left: Ante Basich, Ship Carpenter, 6 years, Club Member; Bob Bacich, Retired Boat Shop Leadman; and Ping Lit, Civil Engineer Associate, 17 years. Bob Bacich, one of the calamari cooks, has helped cook the calamari for the annual event since 1979 and continues to help since he has retired.



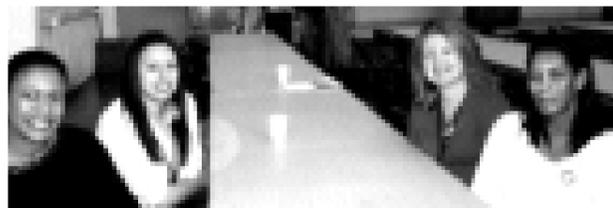
From left: Joannie Mukai, Director of Port Construction & Maintenance, Club Board Member; Roy Cootes, Retired Director of Port Construction & Maintenance, Retired in 1992; Richard Riingen, GIS Specialist, 3 years; and Ed Kim, Environmental Specialist, 8 months, Club Member.



From left: James Williams, Gardener/Caretaker, 5 years, Club Member; Ramon Orona, Gardener/Caretaker, 8 Months, Club Member; and David Cartwright, Gardener/Caretaker, 1 year, Club Member.



From left: Shu Wu, Systems Programmer, 18 years; Zeinah Karimi, Database Architect, 13 years; Bob Zmuda, Civil Engineer, 21 years; and Roy Moon, Sheetmetal Worker, 6 years.



Left side of the table, from left: Molly Campbell, CFO, 17 years; and Cristina Saldana, Student Worker, 2 years. Right side, from left: Michelle Nunez, Secretary, 15 years; and Yolanda Brown, Executive Secretary, 17 years.



From left: Don Ikeda, Programmer Analyst, 3 years; and Jill Jeffries, Programmer Analyst, 18 years, with her husband, Hank.



From left: Eric Doucette, Storekeeper, 15 years; Andy Robateau, Carpenter, 5 years; Willie Brown, Carpenter, 5 years; Almus Edmonds, Custodian, 27 years, Club Member; Jose Estrada, Carpenter, 2 years, Club Member; and Lyndon Bailey, Locksmith, 15 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer David Armijo, Port Police, 18 years; Officer Kent Hobbs, Port Police, 22 years; and Officer David Knight, Port Police, 26 years.



The C&M yard on the morning of the breakfast.



Crowds in line enjoy the calamari while they wait to get inside.

Holiday Wrap-up



Counting On The Holidays

Accounting Office celebrates the season.

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

The Office of Accounting (Public Works) held its annual Holiday Luncheon Dec. 15 at the

Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City. Approximately 60 people attended the buffet lunch. Craig Bloomquist, Accounting Director, began the luncheon with a welcome speech to the crowd. Raffle prizes were handed out, and guests sang holiday songs and played games.

The Club thanks City employee Arlette Davis for her assistance.



Back row, from left: Linda Gatchalian, Susan Maniquis and Lilia Bayan. Middle row: Norma Sattiewhite, Dina Colorado, Jean Su, Cely Santos, Nancy De Leon, Marie Yeh, Hetty Sy, Merlita Valmores and Eleanor Chang. Bottom row: Jose Gatchalian, Hank Lengsavath and Almer Colorado.



From left: Ramon Gregorio, Charles Kalibbala, Uma Davda, Gary Plangio, Marcelo Castillo, Ses Regala, Macky Fortu, Juanita Inton, Leon Ejercito, Cein Lim, Cristina Macahilig and Jean Su.



From left: Dennis Robertson and Beverly Simms.



Craig Bloomquist, Director, gives a welcome speech.



From left: Eli Tumbucon, Ninfa Malabayoc, Dolores Lovric, Craig Bloomquist, Jean C. Su, Thelma Gunasekara and Luisa Tan.



From left: Sandrina Hu, Mary Ann Miu, Ching Ilagan, Judy Harrison, Amy Chang and Jacinta Shah.



Back row from left: Claude Gonzales, Saetheil Armstrong, Dennis Robertson, Cora Rho'Dess, Christi Guymon, Ramon Gregorio and Abe Rasheed. Middle row: Violeta Tan, Billie Domingo and Angie DeVera. Bottom row: Kyong Choi and Arlette Davis.



From left: Nhuy Tonnu, Vicky Santiago, Richard Harada, Mary Jean Devera and Cesar Cruz.



From left: Herman Guevara, Seny Abad, Yolly Antonio, Zenaida Go and Wilken Quon.



From left: Arlette Davis, Gary Plangio and Rio B-Williams.

LAX Officers Run Drives

LAX sponsored a toy and food drive for those in need.

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor

LAX Police and Traffic officers coordinated a Holiday Food and Toy Drive for the African-American Infant Health project. The drives culminated with an event on Dec. 17 at the LAX Police Office.

To help make the holidays a more cheerful time of year for these families in need, Airport employees donated canned foods and toys from Dec. 1 to 17. Latrusel Williams and Veronica Williams, representatives from the African-American Infant Health Project, met with the Officers on Friday Dec. 20 to pick up the donations. Several officers went beyond the call of duty by collecting money from fellow officers to purchase the food and toys that were donated.

The Club thanks Anthony Williams for his assistance, and congratulates the Police and Traffic officers at LAX for their worthwhile holiday project.



Officers move the items into the truck.



Darlene Fuller and fellow officers fill bags with donated toys.

From left: Sgt. Tamba Matturi, 7 years; Louis Claverie, 16 years; Lt. Donald Wilson, 15 years; Latrusel Williams and Veronica Williams representatives from the African-American Infant Health Project.



From left: Howard Thompson and Kenneth Shanklin, 13 years.



Food and toys were placed in the back of the truck.



Bottom row, from left: Darlene Fuller, 2.5 years; and Efrem Charles, 6.5 years. Back: Veronica Williams; Kenneth Shanklin, 13 years; Sgt. Robert Foston, 4.5 years; and Latrusel Williams.

Holiday Wrap-up



West Valley Family Party

■ **West Valley Sanitation holds family holiday party.**

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

The West Valley Bureau of Sanitation held its second annual Employee Dinner for the holidays Dec. 18 at the Woodley Park Golf Course in the Valley.

The following employees were honored for their service:

- Anabel Duran, Clerk Typist, West Valley Clerk Typist of the Year

- John Diaz, RCTO, WV Trimming Commodity Driver of the Year
- Allan Stogner, RCTO, WV Household Commodity Driver of the Year
- Paul Serrano, RCTO, WV Household Commodity Driver of the Year
- Lee Wood, RCTO, WV Bulky Item Commodity Driver of the Year
- Gilbert Palomares, Refuse Collection Supervisor, WV Supervisor of the Year
- Arman Martirosian, RCTO, WV Recycling Commodity Driver of the Year

The Club donated an X-box as well as other prizes for the raffle. Special thanks to Martha Yniguez, Bob Porter, Jesse Cruz and Adriana Nunez for inviting me to participate.



Back, from left: Adolfo Jimenez, Mechanic, 1.5 years; Roy Jimenez, Equipment Mechanic, 5 years; and Armando Jimenez, guest. Front: Mel Montes, RCTO, 3 years, Club Member; Angel De Leon, Mechanic, 10 years; and Paulie Jimenez, Recreation & Parks, 1.5 years.



Ron Lee, Supervisor East Valley, 18 years, Club Member, and his wife, Teri.



From left: Ernie Ballesteros, Retired RCTO, 32 years, Club Member; Sylvia Orozco, guest; and Martha Yniguez, Sr. Clerk Typist, 7 years.



Brenda and Enrique Zaldivar, Assistant Director, Bureau of Sanitation; with Greig Smith, Councilman District 12, Club Member.



From left: Douglas Adger, Retired RCTO, 33 years, with his wife, Robie, and grandson, Lawrence.



Debbie and Eddie Davis, RCTO, 2 years, with Reginald Rogers, RCTO, 2 years, and his wife, Wanda.



Dollie and Allen Guidry, RCTO, 32 years, Club Member.



Michael Shaw, Sr. Management Analyst, CDD, 32 years, Club Board Member, and Rita Robinson, Bureau of Sanitation Director, Club Member.



Jesse Cruz, West Valley Supervisor, 6 years, with Sylvia Orozco, guest.



Guests Deonte, Tabreal and LaTiffany Givens.



Richard Myles, South Collection Division Manager, 27 years, with his wife, Helen.



From left: Gilbert Palomares, West Valley Supervisor, 32 years; Dave Mansker, Equipment Mechanic, 25 years; Lee Wood, RCTO, 31 years; and Kathy Mansker, Dave's spouse.



From left: Juan Gomez, RCTO, 15 years, Club Member, with his wife, Letty; and Stacy Weinberg, fiancé of Miguel Gomez, RCTO, 10 years.



Tracy and Allan Stogner, RCTO II, 17 years.



Richard Guzman, RCTO, 10 years, Club Member, and his wife, Maura.



Jabari Whitaker, RCTO, 5 years, Club Member, and his wife, Michelle.



From left: Bob Anzini, RCTO, 1.5 years; Stacy Champy, guest; Rachell Vega, spouse; and Jr. Vega, RCTO, 9 years.



Bob Potter, Solid Resource Superintendent, 15 years, with his wife, Kim.



From left: Veronica Mares, DWP; Adrian Hernandez, RCTO, 5 years, Club Member; and Johnny Diaz, RCTO, 14 years.



Mary Benavidez, guest of Chris Gomez, RCTO, 17 years.



Debbie and Sal Miranda, Division Manager



Shad Martinez, RCTO, 8 years, and his wife, Yadira.



From left: Cash Russell, RCTO, 7 years, Club Member; Mike Derby, RCTO, 8 years; and Gwen Fontenette, DWP, Club Member.



From left: guests David and Valerie Ganio; Richard Molina, RCTO, 30 years; and guest Eliseo Mojarro.



Tony Fenderson, East Valley Supervisor, 24 years, Club Member, with his wife, Dorothy.



Holiday Wrap-up



Airport Kids In The Spirit

■ LAX holds annual Christmas party for children of employees.

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor



The LAX Association of Airport Employees held its annual Children's Christmas Party Saturday afternoon, Dec. 4, at the LAX First Child Care Center in Westchester. More than 400 LAX employees and their families attended.

The event was free to all airport employees. Guests enjoyed free food, prizes, games, carnival rides, pony rides and face painting.

The Club thanks City employee Kelly Arthurs for her assistance.



Front row, from left: Belinda Brandon, Custodial Supervisor, 19 years; Tessa Bateman, Custodial, 5 years; and Marilyn Wells, Custodial, 24 years. Back: Maria Abdellah, Custodial, 3 years; Edward Bowers, Custodial, 15 years; Gentleman with hat; Gary Campbell, Custodial, 4 years; Sabas Valencia, Custodial, 4 years; Enrique Alvarez, Custodial, 3 years; and Dan Robinson, Custodial, 9 years.



From left: Pam, Brandon, Karla and Courtney Jackson.



From left: Maria Abdellah, Custodian, 3 years; Enrique Alvarez, Custodian, 3 years; and Sabas Valencia, Custodian, 4 years.



Linda Brown, Supervisor, getting her face painted by the clown.



From left: Ferrari, Seaghan and Ahriael Colling.



From left: Norerto Diaz, Landscape, 5 years; Juan Juarez, Landscape, 5 years; and Juan Reyna, Landscape, 4 years.



Holidays Come to Central City

■ Central City Police Boosters throws party for youths.

Story by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

Photos by Michelle Moreno, Club Events Guru

The LAPD's Central City Police Boosters held its 24th annual Children's Holiday Party Dec. 15 at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center in Burbank. The Metro Mounted Platoon made a special appearance at the event.

The party, which greeted more than 1,400 children from the downtown area, also featured entertainment by a spectacular equestri-

an show featuring the Imperial Knights.

This yearly event was the second in which the Club participated. Also, the Club was a Silver Sponsor. The Club collected toys, which benefited this organization.

All 1,400 children enjoyed the equestrian show featuring the Imperial Knights, got up close with the Mounted Platoon, had lunch, received goodie bags and enjoyed a visit from Santa Claus.

Thanks to Captain James A. Rubert and Captain Blake Chow, along with Officer Marie Kardiban and Central Police Booster President Tom Hyde, who invited the Club to come out.



Officers from the Mounted Platoon give children a closer look.



From left: Police Officer Calderon, 12 years; Police Officer Nambu, 15 years; and Police Officer Lew, 15 years; all from the Central Community Police Station.



Volunteers from Central Station and Central City Police Boosters prepare the lunch for all 1,400 children.



From left: Tom Hyde, Central City Police Booster President; Officer Marie Kardiban, Event Organizer, Club Member; and Captain James A. Rubert, Area Commanding Officer, Central Community Police Station.



Police Officer Irma Foster with Santa Claus.



Santa arrives in by police car with full siren and lights.



Kids line up to meet Santa and get their goodie bag.



From left: Sgt. Garcia; Lieutenant Heredero, Captain James A. Rubert and Captain Blake Chow welcomed the 1,400 children who attended the event.



Children reaching out to touch the horses.



The Mounted Platoon entertained the crowd.



Sgt. Campbell hands out pizza slices to the kids from Castelar School.



Santa hands out goodie bags to eager kids. Each child who attended received a goodie bag.

Holiday Wrap-up



Centurions Hit Home Run

■ **LAPD's Centurions baseball team pulls off a great holiday toy giveaway.**

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

The LAPD's baseball team, the Centurions, gave away thousands of toys to area children and had a great day doing it!

On Dec. 18, at the LAPD Academy, the team hosted the LAPD Holiday Experience and Toy Giveaway, bringing together an impressive assortment of distinguished guests, hard-working City employees and attractions for the cause.

Present were Mayor James K. Hahn; City Councilmembers Dennis Zine, Ed Reyes and Wendy Greuel; Police Commissioners David Cunningham, Alan Skobin and Corina Alarcon;

Police Chief William J. Bratton; the Centurions; numerous community and volunteer organizations; former Los Angeles Dodger Lou Johnson; and of course Santa Claus.

Holiday partygoers were treated to a special performance by James Jones, lead vocalist of the signing group "All for One," and was entertained by other live bands throughout the day.

On display were an LAPD helicopter, tactical equipment and police vehicles from the Department's specialized units, and guests had the opportunity to meet with the officers from the LAPD SWAT Team, Mounted and K-9 units. Interactive games, bouncers, rock climbers, a bungee run and the Dodgers on Wheels mobile unit were on hand for the duration of the event. Just before 1 pm, Santa Claus arrived in a 1958 Chevy LAPD police car to kick off the toy giveaway.

The Club contributed toys from its own toy drive to this event.

Special thanks go to Officer Mike Scott for inviting the Club.

Congratulations, Centurions, on a great event!



From left: Rikki Klieman and her husband, LAPD Chief Bill Bratton; Officer Mike Scott, Event Organizer, LAPD Officer; and Mayor James Hahn, with a few of the LAPD Centurions players.



Chris Heinz, PSR, 6 years, and Nina Adtkins, PSR, 3 years, at the 911 booth.



Vannessa Heatley, DWP Field Trainer, 22.5 years, Club Member, with Enrique Gomez, Civil Engineering Associate, 12 years, Club Member, at the DWP booth.



Santa enters the gymnasium; he arrived in a 1958 Chevy LAPD Police car to kick off the toy giveaway.



Tables full of toys at the gymnasium.



From left: Merrill Dunn, Police Officer West Valley, Pitcher, 3 years; Cesar Gomez, Police Officer Wilshire, Infield, 5 years; Alfredo Aleman, Police Officer 77th Station, Utility, 4.5 years; and Noel Magpoc, Police Officer West Los Angeles, Infield, 8 years.



Danny Ruiz, 6 years old, with Officer Belmonte, CTD, 12 years.



Debbie Matsuda, Police Officer North East Division, 6 years, and Dominic Santiago, Police Officer North East Division, 6 years.



Rock climbing.



April Thompson, Impact Sports, provided more than 2,000 baseball giveaways.



No shortage of trucks and dolls.



Thanks, Santa!



From left: Jaime Arredondo, General Services Custodian, and his wife, Alicia, and daughter, Viviana, who selected the Princess Castle to take home.



From left: Rikki Klieman and her husband, LAPD Chief Bill Bratton; Officer Mike Scott, Event Organizer, LAPD Officer; and Mayor James Hahn.



The Mounted Platoon: Ron Terrazas, Police Officer, 22 years, Club Member, with General, 12 years of service; Rafael, 11 years of service; and Rudy De Leon, Police Officer, 30 years, Club Member.



A future chef about to enjoy her cooking set.



Karyn Smith, VIP check-in, Calvary Chapel Mid-Valley.



Police Officer Olson, K-9 Unit, with Rocky, police dog, 6 years of service..



Mark Smith, 27 years, Air Support, and Kevin Cook, 8.5 years, Air Support.



Excited kids and parents.



The Take-Along Palace was her toy of choice.



Dolls for us!



Holiday Wrap-up



Bouncers for kids to enjoy.



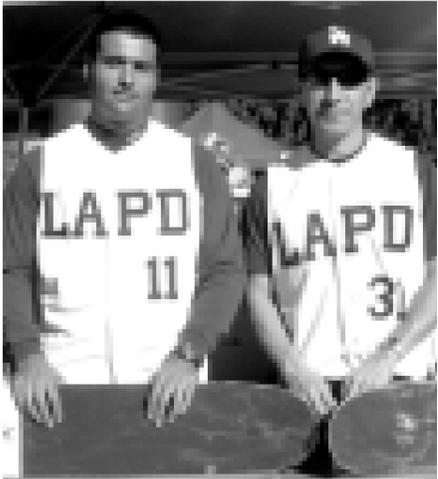
Dodgers on Wheels mobile unit, also known as the Arcade Booth.



Lunch!



Tables full of toys at the gymnasium.



Juan Soriano, Police Officer Devonshire Gang Unit, short-stop/pitcher, 7 years; and Sgt. Martin Mojarró, Van Nuys Station, pitcher/third base, 9 years, at the Centurions booth.



Excited kids and parents.



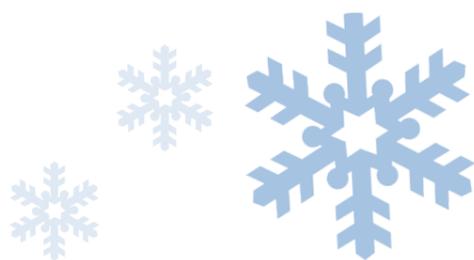
Thanks, Santa.



Lunch!



Children start to check in to pick out a toy.



It's heavy, but it's mine!



My first racing set!

Housing For the Holidays

■ Van Nuys Housing Dept. throws holiday party for staff.

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor

The Van Nuys Housing Dept. held its holiday party Dec. 23 at the Van Nuys office. Employees invited their friends and family to the potluck event. Santa Claus made his big appearance and brought gifts for all the children in attendance.

The Club thanks the Van Nuys Housing Office for inviting us to its festive holiday gathering.



Welcome!



From left: Maria Palomo, Security officer, and David Barron, 5 years.



From left: Michael Kuhn, Yolanda Kuhn and Vatche Kasumyan, 5 years, Club Member.



The children wait for the arrival of Santa Claus.



Jose plays with the race-track.



Lorena gets her hands dirty as she makes a gingerbread house.



Alberto Juarez, Club Member.



Frances Felix, 1 year, Club Member, and her guests.



From left: Shelia and Ricky Reisner, 2.5 years, and their two children.



Patti and Ray Ives, volunteers, donated \$300 worth of toys ... and have been married for 48 years!



From left: Vatche Kasumyan, 5 years, with his wife, Klara, and children Matthew and Megan.

Holiday Wrap-up

Holiday for Harbor Employees

■ The Harbor Dept. Employees Club celebrates the season.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor



The Harbor Department Employees Club hosted its annual holiday dinner and dance Dec. 16 at Mercello's Restaurant in San Pedro.

HDEC hosted the event to allow employees to celebrate the season together.

Holly Carlson would like to acknowledge and thank the following for helping make this a success:

- Rene Rodriguez
- Emma Gonzalez
- Jessica Bautista
- Lori Gastelum, and
- Trish Lorenzana

The Club was more than happy to donate prizes for the raffle.

Special thanks to HDEC President Rene Rodriguez and Jessica Bautista for inviting me to attend this fun celebration!



From left: Nathan Espinoza, guest; Antonia Grbic, POLA HAB; Kelsey Wolleat, POLA HAB; and Mario Amalfitano, guest.



Maria Couch, POLA HAB, Club Member, and her husband, Cedric Couch.



Carol and Enoch Samuel, POLA C&M, Club Member.



From left: Gabe Silva, POLA HAB; Bruce E. Seaton, Interim Executive Director, Club Member; Prashant Konareddy, POLA HAB; Geraldine Yu, POLA HAB; and Christine McMillan, POLA HAB.



Mike Dailey, guest, with Gina Svicarovich, POLA HAB.



Pauline Hospe, Pilot Station; Syd Groves, guest; and Teresa and Dr. Ralph Appy, Director of Environmental Management.



Sherri and Charles Miller, POLA C&M.



From left: Kris Petrevski, C&M Testing Lab; Vanessa Alvarez, guest; Berlinda Martinez, POLA C&M; Neca Alves, C&M Testing Lab; and Frank Comfort, C&M Testing Lab.



From left: Alex Carbajal, POLA HAB; Danielle Holt, POLA HAB; Danny Dundov, POLA HAB; and Summer Cheyne, POLA HAB.



Adam Birkenbach, Retired Chief Harbor Engineering, and Angela Birkenbach, Chief Wharfinger, Club Member.



From left: Zoya Dyer, POLA HAB and her husband, Dennis; Heloise Froelich, EAD; and Shokoufe Marashi, POLA HAB.



Sharon Tatel, POLA HAB, Club Member, with Gerrick Cardenas, guest.



From left: John Gloster Jr., POLA C&M; Frank Rendon, POLA C&M, Club Member; Joy Mativa, City Attorney, Club Member; and Cindy Jelenic-Babich, guest.



Luis and Claudia Romero, POLA HAB, Club Member.





Holiday Wrap-up



Back, from left: Guadalupe Diaz, POLA HAB, and her husband, Juan Benitez. Front: Melissa Malahni, POLA HAB; Trisha Karmelich, POLA HAB; and Danette Nappi, POLA HAB.



Beth Adamik, POLA HAB, and Donni Gray, POLA HAB, Club Member.



Teresa Scognamilo, guest, with Kenneth Henderson, POLA C&M.



Rica Viola, POLA HAB, Club Member, and Dennis Ogren, POLA HAB.



From left: Marc Wright, Bureau of Contract Administration, Club Member; Donna Wright, POLA HAB, Club Member; Patti D., POLA HAB; and Rose Kinoshita, POLA HAB, Club Member.



Martin Lovato, C&M Electrician, Club Member, with his wife, Daryl.



Ron and Teresa Henkhaus, POLA HAB.



Lori Gastelum, POLA Engineering, 14 yrs, Club Member, and Mimi Gutierrez, POLA Engineering, 1.5 yrs, Club Member.



Ann and Jim Kinkor, POLA HAB; Kecia Brooks, POLA HAB; and Angela Ross, guest.



Roy Benjamines, POLA Engineering, with Carlos Baldenegro, POLA HAB.



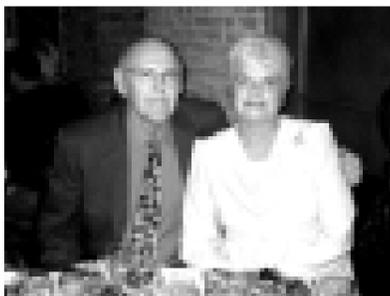
Francisco and Enedina Rodriguez, POLA HAB.



From left: Andrew Wooster, POLA HAB; Amy Ebro, POLA HAB; and Jessica Bautista, POLA HAB, Club Member.



Sam and Lynn Qubain, POLA Personnel Officer; Donna Wright, POLA HAB, Club Member; and Marc Wright, Bureau of Contract Administration, Club Member.



Jim Reed, Retired Sr. Construction Manager, and his wife, Leslie.



From left: Linda Clifford, POLA HAB; Rhonda Wheelwright, POLA HAB; and Marisa Trutanich, POLA HAB.



Tish Lorenzana, POLA HAB, with Richard Lorenzana, Wharfinger's Office.



From left: Ken Ragland, POLA HAB, Club Member, with his wife, Cathy; Paul Desantis, guest; and Lena Maun, POLA HAB.



Paco Romo, musician, and Jose Estrada, Musician & POLA C&M, provided music for everyone to enjoy.



Adrienne Fedrick, POLA HAB, with Jeremiah Smiddy, guest.



Julie DiTucci, POLA HAB, and Anthony DiTucci, Captain of Angelina II.



From left: Ruben Ceja, guest; with Denise Martinez, POLA HAB; and Antonio Alvarado, POLA HAB.



From left: Sheila Gonzalez, Public Relations; Maricela Carballo, POLA HAB; and Rachel Campbell, Public Relations.



Holly Carlson, POLA C&M, Club Member, with Emma Gonzalez, POLA C&M.



From left: Vanessa Manjarrez, POLA HAB, Club Member; Brenda Aubert, POLA HAB; and Linda Jimenez, POLA HAB.



From left: Guests Erik Fonseca and Patricia Ponce, with Laura Castillo, POLA C&M.



Walter Dow, Retired Database Architect and his wife, Martha, with Pete Mattingly, Retired Systems Programmer, Club Member.



In back, L-R: Rene Rodriguez, President of HDEC, and Bruce E. Seaton, Interim Executive Director. Front: Arturo Medina, POLA HAB, and David Robles, POLA HAB.

Holiday Wrap-up

Housing Gathers Toys

■ Housing Dept. collects toys for children.

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor
Photos by Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Manager, and the Dept. of Housing

The Los Angeles Housing Department organized a Toy Drive for the holidays to help needy families throughout the Los Angeles area. LAHD employees, Fun Rise Toy Company, Mattel and Toys for Joy Foundation all donated to toys to the drive. On Dec. 20, more than 20 housing inspectors arrived to the downtown office on motorcycles to pick up the toys and delivery them to the families.

The Club thanks Housing employees Alma Lopez, Chris Hatzikian, Angie Garcia and Alicia Marquez for their assistance and their invitation.



The Housing inspectors who took part in the toy drive.



The Housing Inspectors prepare to deliver the toys.



From left: Ray Kehoe; Keith Gordon; Elizabeth Kazay, Club Member; Norman Koplin; Francis Felix, Club Member; Melba Williams; Reid Daub; Enrique Salazar; Miguel Barcenas; Jeffrey Bogust; Ricky Reisner; Gary Pochmara; Robert Stagnitta; and Ken Kirkness.



Special shirts were made for the "Housing Hogz."



From left: Representative from the Toys for Joys Foundation Domingo Saucedo, Rishard Gomez and Ken Simmons.



A group photo of the "Hogz."



Wayne Durand gets ready to depart.



On the floor, from left: Flor Esguerra and Joseph Lung. Back row: Chris Hatzikian, Angela Lung, Alma Lopez and Meritxell Capdet.



Back row: David Whitehurst. Second row: Elena Zamora; Jerry Carapia; and Scott McGill. Third row: Sara Rutledge and Dan Snyder. Front row: Sonia Pereda and John Alipio, Club Member.



Back row, from left: Mike Gruett; Doug Webster; Barry Gilfry, Club Member; David Greene; and Pieter Van Every. Middle: Shawna Blank, Club Member. Front: Scott Hrebek and Svetlana Ramirez, Club Member.



Housing inspectors deliver boxes of toys.



From left: Ron Diaz, Club Member; Mirta Ocana; and Chris Hatzikian.



Inspectors drive on their bikes to deliver the toys.



From left: Miguel Barcenas and Enrique Salazar, Club Member.

Holiday Wrap-up

Fun Under Contract

■ Contract Admin. has its holiday luncheon.

Story and photos by Liz Montes, Club Counselor

The Bureau of Contract Administration had its annual holiday luncheon at the Proud Bird Restaurant Dec. 9. Approximately 130 employees attended and enjoyed an excellent buffet, games, door prizes and a sing-along to "The Twelve Days of Christmas." Special thanks to Club Member Sharon Redditt for inviting us.



From left: Margo Hendricks; Ken Hendricks, Sr. Construction Inspector; Robert Moore, C.I.; Ted Galsim, Principal C.I.; Ray Sanchez, C.I.; and Dean Lee.



From left: Sharon Redditt, Executive Secretary III; and Vanessa Garcia, Clerk Typist.

From left: John L. Reamer, Director; and Walter Bradley, Acting Assistant Director.

From left: Jennifer Roncal; and Benjamin Roncal, Sr. C.I.



From left: Red Medina, C.I.; Paul Malcolm, Sr. C.I.; Pete LeGrand, Assistant C.I.; Joe Zamora, Sr. Electrical Inspector; and Sepou Ohanian, C.I.



From left: Steve Willis, Sr. Construction Inspector; David Tang, Principal Construction Inspector; and Lubie Carovski, Sr. Construction Inspector.



From left: Marianne Gomez, Payroll Supervisor I; Lori Rodriguez, Systems Aide; Larry Reynosa; and Irma Aranda, Executive Secretary II.



From left: Lynda McGlinchey, Sr. Management Analyst; and Hannah Choi, Program Manager.

From left: Larry Reynosa, Management Analyst II; and Joy Gaddi, Management Analyst II.

From left: Sandy Ortiz; Ernie Ortiz, C.I.; and Chris Cox, Sr. C.I.



From left: Jean Markham, Clerk Typist; Mary Taylor, Principal Clerk; Lydee Su, Management Assistant; and Linda Cruz, Sr. Clerk Typist.

From left: Dudley Sweeney, retired Principal C.I.; and Joy Gaddi, Management Analyst II.



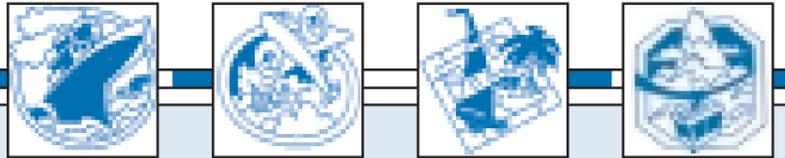
From left: Adrian Barrera, Sr. C.I.; and Anthony Garcia, Sr. C.I.



From left: Larry Reynosa, Management Analyst II; Femi Oyewole, Management Analyst I; and Alem Kabsay, Management Analyst II.



OFFICIAL CLUB PARTNER



TravelTalk

by Tony Adler, President, Cruise and Resort, Inc. Club Travel Partner



Much Has Changed With Alaska Cruises

When my wife, Kristy, and I went on our first Alaska cruise about 16 years ago, it was still a bit of a novelty. I was in my 30s, my wife was in her 20s, and we were probably the youngest couple on the ship. Alaska was beautiful, but it was a much more subdued experience than the usual sun and fun of Mexico or the Caribbean. In a way, we sort of thought we had grown up. The entertainment onboard was not very exciting, but we met a lot of nice people and read more books in a week than we ever had before!

The ship we went on had about 600 passengers. Most of today's vessels carry more than 1,500! That might not seem like a positive thing at first, but there are many attractive elements to the larger ships. First of all, the entertainment and facilities onboard are far superior. The cabins are bigger. Most have verandas, something unheard of 16 years ago! There are many more dining choices on these larger vessels, and to fill the ships, the cruise lines have had to market to a much more broad demographic. The average age is still higher than the Caribbean or Mexico, but the gap is narrowing. In fact, on several summer sailings on Princess, Holland America and NCL last year, there were over 300 kids onboard! There are children and teen programs on all major cruise lines that keep the young ones happy day and night.

CruiseTours have also gained in popularity. These vacations allow guests to see both sides of Alaska, by cruise ship, train and motor coach. There are beautiful new lodges that make the trip much more palatable to those used to the luxuries of fine hotels. Denali National Park is a favorite spot for quite a few of our clients. For those wanting to see wildlife native to this region, a CruiseTour is the best option. Many believe that you really haven't seen Alaska at all until you've visited the interior of this magnificent state.

A much greater variety of shore excursions are offered now, and they tend to be more active than the standard city tours offered in 1989. Today, the choices range from easy trips to more participatory activities like hiking, flying across scenic mountains, helicopter trips to glaciers, salmon fishing and even riding the rapids of a river. There are activities designed especially for families, children and seniors. We even create exclusive adventures for some of our Club clients who want to get off the beaten path.

My wife talked me into taking a helicopter tour that landed on a glacier during our last visit to Alaska. I have to be honest: I am a white-knuckle flyer, even on a 747. While I am sure the pilot of our whirlbird was well qualified from his years of experience in Vietnam, I was terrified. My wife kept telling me to look at the scenery, but I was busy making deals with God as we approached the glacier.



Once on the glacier, (and I could breathe again), we had a great time trying to walk on the giant hunk of ice. For me this was a highlight. For the other seven people on the tour, the helicopter was the best. Different strokes for different folks! I might try rafting down the rapids next time. I am not sure it is any safer, but I am confident that I can swim better than I can fly!

Most of the cruise lines depart from Vancouver, Seattle or the seaport for Anchorage. There is usually not much difference in the cost of the cruise, but sometimes the airfare is less to Seattle than it is to Vancouver. The Alaska season is from May until early September, and the time to book is now. In fact, many of the summer sailings are already nearly full. The earlier you book, the less you will pay. Be sure to call us to see what specials we have available when you can plan your well-earned vacation time. I think you will like all that Alaska offers. Believe me, it is an awesome experience and it is much better than ever to cruise there!

I also wanted to tell you about a different kind of cruise that we have been selling very well. These cruises are out of Portland and include the Columbia and Snake Rivers, and some historic and scenic towns that many of us have only heard or read about. America West Steamboat Company has authentic riverboats that add even more to the experience. Their product is fantastic! They have expressed a desire to work with the Los Angeles City Employees Club, and we have put together some excellent Club rates on several departures including the hard-to-get Thanksgiving and Christmas cruises. Be sure to call one of your Club agents at (888) 652-6400 or (818) 990-4290 for more information.

Thanks to all of you who gave such nice feedback about last month's article on The Good, The Bad and The Ugly Travel Experiences. We are fortunate to have so many stories to tell from our years of doing what we love: traveling.

My company Cruise and Resort is your Club Partner for travel. We would love to help you plan your next vacation, corporate meeting or incentive. From individual trips to groups of more than 2,000, we are your best source for honest travel advice and great Club pricing. We truly appreciate your business!

Call your Club representatives at (888) 652-6400 – Julie, David or Kristy – to talk about any travel destination. Be sure to mention that you are a Club member for your maximum discounts.



David Lango, EDM West LA Yard



Juan Hooper, Tree Surgeon Foreman



Jim Thomas, EDM West LA Yard on the scene on Lookout Mountain Drive.

DWP Takes

State Kicking In

Following a phone call with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Mayor Jim Hahn Jan. 15 announced that California declared a state of emergency in Los Angeles, paving the way for residents affected by the recent rain storms to apply for grants for temporary housing and home repairs, low-cost loans to cover uninsured property losses, and other programs.

Earlier in the week, Mayor Hahn declared a local state of emergency and asked the Governor for state aid to help residents weather the costs from the recent rain-storms.

"The full resources of the City and state government are focused on helping Los Angeles residents recover from the recent rain storms," said Mayor Hahn. "I was pleased to receive the Governor's call today and hear the state is acting quickly to assist Los Angeles. We greatly appreciate the selfless work of all those individuals who are assisting in the relief effort."

Initial reports indicate the City has suffered about \$30 million in damages. This figure was expected to increase as additional rain-related damages are reported.

The rain that drenched the Los Angeles Basin caused significant damage to the City's neighborhoods and streets. At press time, there were 35 buildings in Los Angeles that were "red tagged" by City inspectors, meaning they are unsafe for people to enter.

Mayor Hahn urged all residents to dial 3-1-1 to report potholes and debris.



Chain saws help clear fallen trees.



A DWP worker moves a fallen branch.



Frank Gonzales, Tree Surgeon views the scene of a downed power pole.

Power Restored!



From left: Gilbert Algular, Tree Surgeon; Luis Samayoa, Tree Surgeon Assistant



A DWP worker adjusts equipment needed to restore power.



Traffic Officer Albert Fua, keeping the public out of harm's way during the January 8th storm on Lookout Mountain Drive.

Charge as Rains Fall

Power Restored

Continued from Page 1

morning of Jan. 8. Fallen trees clogged the narrow, hilly streets. Power lines—some still surging with 4,800 volts of electricity—were tangled in tree branches or grounded. Power poles were snapped. Two transformers were on the ground.

"It's up there with one of the worst (power outage) situations I've seen," said Kirk Sanderson, electrical line patrol foreman and a 20-year veteran of DWP. As the foreman in charge, Sanderson said the first priority was to locate and isolate the live wires to create a safe environment for the public to work in. Assisting DWP's two electric trouble crews were several line crews and tree crews who don't normally work on downed lines.

Electric trouble crews are electrical distribution mechanics who are dedicated to fixing electrical problems on a 24/7 basis. During a major storm, DWP also taps all available electrical distribution mechanics, electrical service workers, and tree crews from its district field offices to rotate shifts. In addition, DWP utilized available transmission crews (who normally work on higher voltage transmission lines) from the metro area and outlying areas including Bishop, Mojave, Victorville, Boulder City, Nev., and Delta, Utah.

Once power feeding the "live" circuits was shut off, the crews could begin cutting away trees, repairing the poles and fixing sections of circuits that were isolated and de-energized. Meanwhile the electric trouble crews continued isolating and reenergizing different portions of the circuits to restore power for residents as quickly as possible.

"This was a major job involving three primary (4,800 volt) circuits and coordination of different agencies," Sanderson said, adding that several teams of Public Works-Street Maintenance workers were involved in clearing the trees and securing the roads. Moreover, continuous driving rain weakened the hillsides, as sliding earth brought down more trees into lines. One mudslide came within two feet of a DWP truck that was propping up a broken power pole.

During the next few days, the rain and mudslides continued to knock trees down into poles and wires in Mt. Olympus and other hillside communities. More circuits, including two that had been temporarily restored, went out again after falling trees crushed the wires.

Christmas Week Storms

The major storm that occurred between Christmas and New Year's was also challenging, with major repairs required to resolve multiple outages. Among some of the noteworthy incidents, all power was lost from Distributing Station 37, serving downtown, Boyle Heights and surrounding areas for most of Dec. 28, and into the following day. Lightning struck a radio tower that provides communications for police, and dozens of trees blew down and palm fronds burned wires in Ladera Heights, Hancock Park and other mid-city areas. Koreatown and Westlake experienced outages most of the day Dec. 31.

The Mt. Olympus area was among multiple outages that hit the City, stretching from San Pedro to the San Fernando Valley. In the first storm, from Dec. 28 through Jan. 3, outages affected more than 20,000 DWP customers at any one time, and cumulatively, more than 80,000 DWP customers. During the brunt of the second storm, from Jan. 7 through Jan. 10, more than 58,600 customers lost power. Overall, more than 100 DWP electric crews were dispatched to

make repairs, handling more than 300 jobs Citywide each day of the storms.

"I'm very proud of the job done by our electric crews during this recent storm," DWP General Manager Ronald Deaton said. "The prompt and effective response from our electric trouble crews, dispatchers, station operators, substation maintenance and distribution crews has come to be expected from DWP but should not be taken for granted."

He added: "Keeping the lights shining brightly and the power humming for the people of Los Angeles is our core business and we do it well."

"Our main goal is to get the lights back on safely, and that means making an area safe for our citizens and our employees," said Dave Pulsifer, transmission and distribution superintendent of the Electric Trouble Center. Noting that electrical line repair work is among the most dangerous jobs, Pulsifer said the line patrolmen are "trained to diagnose and fix electrical problems. They are the ones who climb up the 80-foot wooden poles in darkness, hard rain, or wind."

All major jobs, such as poles and wires down, large outages, transformer trouble, street light problems, high and low-voltage complaints, and reconnections go to the line patrol mechanics.

When describing the work of these "unsung heroes," Pulsifer likes to tell people: "Can you imagine yourself changing a light bulb in your house while standing in a bathtub of water? Now envision working on 4,800 volts of electricity in the rain."

DWP officials said the storms were particularly challenging, as major repairs were required to resolve multiple outages during heavy rains and windy conditions. "I'm proud to say that our employees put their best foot forward. They remained focused and engaged in an extremely well coordinated repair effort," Deaton said. "They diligently corrected problems during difficult conditions with no injuries reported."

In the aftermath of the storm, DWP's Construction and Maintenance crews continued shoring up problems. Where the electric trouble and district crews had made temporary fixes to restore power quickly, they were now doing permanent repairs. "We're out there replacing damaged wires or cables, replacing transformers struck by lightning, pumping water from underground vaults, clearing fallen trees or branches, and other work," said Greg Mathis, electrical service manager who oversees many of DWP's 24-hour operational groups. In some areas where there were particular problem spots, such as the Hollywood Hills, which suffered five or six outages affecting the same circuit, DWP will be briefing the public on what caused the problems and possible solutions.

Altogether, about 300 DWP personnel have been involved in aiding power restoration efforts throughout the city. These include many employees working behind the scenes who are on-call 24/7, such as load dispatchers (or system operators), station operators, station mechanics and testers, and customer service representatives. In addition, information technology specialists ensure that all electronic communications are functioning properly so that dispatchers and crews can respond to problems as quickly as possible.

This story was provided by Carol Tucker of the DWP's Corporate Communications office.



Luis Samayoa, Tree Surgeon Assistant, helps free a car trapped by a fallen tree.



Hank Krebbers replacing a cross arm in Mt. Olympus during the January 8th storm.



DWP crew work together to cut, haul, and move fallen trees that downed power lines and damaged personal property during the January 8th storm.

Gloves of Love



Police officers from around the world duked it out with LAPD, Sheriff's Dept. for City of Hope.

by Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor
 Photos by Club staff:
 Arlene Herrero, Angel Gomez,
 Sammy Lam and John Hawkins

Some of the world's best and bravest police officers put their pride and their chins on the line when they took on the best and bravest of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) in the 11th Annual "Fight for Life" boxing tournament. Event proceeds benefited City of Hope Cancer Center. Officers from England, Australia, Canada and India stepped into the

ring at the Grand Olympic Auditorium Nov. 12. The evening included more than 12 bouts in various weight classes, with both male and female fighters.

This action-packed evening brought a big crowd to the Grand Olympic.

The LAPD and Sheriff's Department have special ties to City of Hope that make this event very important to them. LAPD Officer Diane Alonzo faced a battle with leukemia in 1996 and turned to City of Hope for help. Without hesitation, both departments joined in numerous bone-marrow drives to find a potential donor and one was found, her brother, a Sheriff's Department deputy. Shortly thereafter, Alonzo underwent a bone-marrow transplant at City of Hope. She returned to active duty in September of 1997 and now, in addition to her work with the department, she volunteers on the "Fight for Life" event committee.

City of Hope is one of the world's leading biomedical research and treatment centers for cancer, diabetes and other life-threatening diseases.

This is the second consecutive year that the Club co-sponsored the event.

Congratulations to the LAPD/LASD and City of Hope for another outstanding event! Special thanks to Phyllis Brown and Trish Devine.



From left: Phyllis Brown, Campaign Assistant of Associate Group; Ann Morrison, Marketing Account Group Manager; guest; Trish Devine, Director of Associate Group Development; Bryan Graves, Marketing Account Supervisor; Mike Ciavarella, City of Hope; and Sandra Ruiz, Marketing Communications Assistant.



Noah Hawkins, son of Club CEO John Hawkins, with Chief of Police William J. Bratton.



From left: Dr. Stephen J. Forman, Chair, Division of Hematology/Bone Marrow Transplantation; Officer Alonzo; Chief of Police William J. Bratton; Trish Devine, Director of Associate Group Development City of Hope; and Assistant Chief McDonnell.



Angel Gomez Sr., Club Member Services Manager, with his son, Angel Jr.



From left: Officer Diane Alonzo, LAPD; Assistant Chief McDonnell; and Trish Devine, Director of Associate Group Development.



From left: Dr. Stephen J. Forman, Chair, Division of Hematology/Bone Marrow Transplantation; Sharon Welker, fiancé of Howard Jackson; Howard Jackson, Personal Protection Officer/Training Partner to actor and World Karate Champion Chuck Norris. Howard Jackson's son is LAPD Officer Howard Jackson Jr., stationed at Hollenbeck Police Department.

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Haven House

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

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

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

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

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



CLUB PHOTO FEATURE

The Club in the Armed Forces

In December, we asked you to send us photos of your family members and friends serving in our nation's Armed Forces, so we can congratulate them (and you). We are proud to honor them here in our pages. It is through the bravery and dedication of these individuals that we are able to live each day enjoying the freedoms of this nation. We cannot repay these individuals for their sacrifices, but we can recognize their courage and strength.

Here are the first photos. Thanks for sending!



Matt Haro, brother of Beverly Haro, Club Counselor, just finished five years of service with the United States Marine Corps in November.



Derek Shanon Aguilar del Cano, another cousin of Club Counselor Arlene Herrero, is in the United States Marine Corps. He is stationed in Japan.



Lieutenant Colonel, Ken Leong does staff work at Camp Victory, Baghdad, to support the fighting soldiers and marines. He is a good friend of the Club.



Francis Gala, cousin of Club Counselor Arlene Herrero, is in the United States Marine Corps. He is with the USMC's HMM 764, a CH-46 helicopter squadron made up mostly of reservists. He is stationed at Edwards Air Force Base until he will be deployed again to Iraq in March.



Tony Moreno, brother of Michelle Moreno, the Club's Events Guru, is in the United States Air Force. He is stationed in Florida.

3 Main Goals In Place for 2005

■ The following is LAPD Chief William Bratton's monthly message distributed in early October via the department's online listserv.

By LAPD Chief William Bratton

The sworn and civilian men and women of the Los Angeles Police Department have worked hard and made significant accomplishments during 2004. They continued to make progress on Department goals, and have been unrelenting in their fight to make L.A. the safest big city in America. Despite the fact that the Department has not grown in sworn strength, in fact, it actually shrank by about two percent since last year, their momentum, energy, and enthusiasm has garnered additional reductions in crime and response time Citywide, illustrating their resolve and commitment to the people of Los Angeles.



LAPD Chief, William Bratton

In looking ahead to 2005, the Department will continue to focus on its three main goals of crime reduction, counterterrorism preparedness, and Consent Decree compliance. To reinforce the momentum of the past two years, we will continue to refine our organizational structure, as I will again reassign key responsibilities in order to increase and enhance our effectiveness.

The defeat of Measure A, the half-cent sales tax increase for Los Angeles County, has not altered the need for more cops in L.A., nor has it suppressed my determination to fight for additional resources. The lesson that was learned from this Countywide ballot measure is that the majority of City voters, roughly two-thirds, understand the need for more officers, and more importantly, are willing to support tax increases to hire them. Although the City Council decided not to put a half-cent tax increase on the March City ballot, the opportunity still exists for a measure on the May ballot. I will continue the fight and encourage the political leadership of this City, particularly the City Council, to fulfill their elected responsibilities and support a new sales tax initiative. I ask each and every one of you to get behind this effort. I can't do it alone, but together we can convince the Council, and ultimately the voters, to do the right thing.

In the area of personnel enhancements, we will replace the sworn positions that we lost through attrition last year, and fill the 30 new positions allowed for in the current budget. We just began new recruit classes in October and in December,

and the plans are to have monthly academy classes beginning in February 2005 through the month of June, bringing our total sworn strength to 9,244 officers, up from the current 9,095.

A new recruitment campaign designed with the assistance of a private consulting firm will help with that effort. The campaign features movie trailers showing what you do as LAPD officers, and directs prospective candidates to the Department's new recruitment website, www.joinlapd.com.

Now, where will we put the new officers? Well, much is planned in the area of police facilities for 2005, including the opening of the 19th station. This new station, named Mission Area Community Police Station, is in the north San Fernando Valley and is expected to be operational between February and March, taking a

substantial load off of both the Devonshire and Foothill Areas in Valley Bureau. The new and greatly improved West Valley station is also expected to open around the same time. The Hollenbeck Area station is scheduled to be replaced on the existing site. Movement of personnel out of the old facility and into leased space will occur in the spring, and demolition and construction will begin in early summer.

Additionally, the 20th station, currently being referred to as the mid-city station, is in the design phase with construction estimated to begin in late summer. This new Area station will be located at Vermont Avenue, between 11th and 12th Streets.

Groundbreaking for the new Los Angeles Regional Crime Laboratory is scheduled for mid-January. This new \$130 million facility is a joint effort between the Department, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, and California State University, Los Angeles. It will be a state-of-the-art lab and teaching facility benefiting all three organizations.

Currently in the design phase is the new Parker Center building, expected to be completed and operational in five years. This new \$300-million administrative building will be located on 1st Street, across from City Hall.

The New Year promises to be an exciting one for all of us. I look forward to the challenges that lie ahead, encouraged by the enthusiasm, dedication and skill of the men and women who protect and serve, and the civilian employees whom we rely on so much. I hope that the recent holidays were healthy and enjoyable for you and your families and I look forward to serving you in the New Year.

2004 Crime Statistics (Year End, Citywide)

Year to Date as of December 31, 2004:

Homicide Down -	0.4%
Rape Down -	7.7%
Robbery Down -	15.1%
Aggravated Assault Down -	12.9%
Child/Spousal Abuse Down -	13.7%
Total Violent Crimes Down -	13.6%
Burglary Down -	8.9%
Burglary/Theft from Vehicle Down -	10.2%
Personal/Other Theft Down -	6.6%
Auto Theft Down -	11.8%
Total Property Crimes Down -	9.4%

Honor Those Who Serve

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



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

Housing No Longer Her Home

■ Club Member Margaret Gonzalez retires from Housing.

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

After 30 years of hard work and dedication, Margaret Gonzalez celebrated her retirement from the Los Angeles Housing Department Jan. 7 at O'Mama Mia Restaurant in Los Angeles. Several of her family, friends and co-workers attend the dinner event to say their good-byes.

Margaret worked in the Housing Department's Wilshire office in the investigation and enforcement section. She leaves behind many cherished memories and will be missed.



Margaret Gonzalez



Agnes Lung-Tam presents a Certification of Appreciation plaque to Margaret.



Front row, from left: Henry Gonzalez, Margaret Gonzalez and Naomi Gonzalez. Back: John Flores, Sue Flores, Esther Severino, Joe Severino, Rico Gonzalez, Carlos Gonzalez and Connie Lerma.



Front row from left: Mario Saborio and Ruth Alhaj. Middle: Lordes Morales, Martha Oco, Maria Mezorra, Jerry Carapia, Margaret Gonzalez and Tony Castro. Back: David McDonald and Julio Park.



From left: David McDonald, Susan Garcia, Yesica Vanegs, Margaret Gonzalez, Jose Romaro, Lois Hearne and Mary Ann Karsh. Back: Tony Castro.



From left: Maria Mezorra, Lordes Morales and Martha Ocon.



From left: Agnes Lung-Tam, Director; Margaret Gonzalez; and Ken Simmons, Assistant General Manager.



CITY EMPLOYEE POLLWORKERS SOUGHT FOR UPCOMING ELECTIONS

Positions could include overtime pay.

The City of Los Angeles has established and funded a comprehensive City Employee Poll Worker Program that will place City employees at polling places to assist community volunteer poll workers for the upcoming **March 8 and May 17 municipal elections.**

City employees assigned to work at polling places may be paid overtime, in accordance with their Memorandum of Understanding.



To apply for a pollworker position, or for more information, please call (213) 978-0001.



From left: Susan Gosden, Marta Ocana, Agnes Lung-Tam, Ken Simmons, Margaret Gonzalez and Domingo Saucedo.



From left: David Whitehurst, Margaret Gonzalez, Terrell Young and Willie Andrews.



Back row, from left: Beverly Mims (Club Member); and Margaret Gonzalez. Front: Terri Alexander and Eun Chavis.



Front row from left: Sue Flores, and Lilian and Reyn Bligat. Back: John Flores, Margaret Gonzalez and Barbara Martinoff.



From left: Jerry Carapia, Margaret Gonzalez and Beverly Mims.



From left: Rita Robinson, Margaret Gonzalez and Frank Martinez, City Clerk.

DOT Comes Up Roses for Pasadena's Big Day

Rose Bowl, Parade

Continued from Page 1

ers will provide the service on an overtime basis; and the City of Pasadena will get exactly the services that it requires and expects for these important events.

DOT Parking Chief Jimmy Price raved about the work done by LA officers: "LA traffic officers do an excellent job – the City of Pasadena scouted us because we do an excellent job. This makes sense for Pasadena as well – they get exactly what they need, more cost effectively than the services they were getting from other agencies in the past – plus LA gets to do a favor for a neighbor. At full reimbursement, this makes economic sense for LA, and the workers get to earn a little overtime for working outside of the Rose Bowl for 14 hours at a clip. And the people of Pasadena – and Los Angeles – all benefit without even realizing it, as they safely and systematically drive to & hither, in and home."

SEIU Local 347 advocated aggressively for the agreement. "Selling our services is one area in which 347 members have offered many suggestions – competition is our friend!" notes Union General Manager Julie Butcher. "It makes sense for us to offer this competitive service to our neighbors. This is a fine example of local government doing the smart, entrepreneurial thing."

"This is exactly what we should be doing – selling our services, and growing the public sector," said Union Political Director Teresa Sánchez. "It's only possible because the members of Local 347 provide the best service and because we've elected a mayor and councilmembers who get it and support workers. Think about it: Not that many years ago, we were fighting hard against the threat of privatization, of having our work contracted out. Here we are today celebrating the first agreement with another city to contract our work in."



Officer Mendoza, Hollywood Division, 6.5 years.



From left: Officer Chism, Western Division, 7 years, Club Member; Officer Espinoza, Western Division, 6 months; and Officer Eugene Cummings, 5 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer Mendoza, Hollywood Division, 6.5 years, and Officer Zacharias, Hollywood Bike Unit, 3.5 years.



Officer Chism, Western Division, 7 years, Club Member.



Officer Espinoza, Western Division, 6 months.

Newsbrief

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Mayor Jim Hahn announced Jan. 19 that he will create a task force to back a \$500 million bond to build housing in Los Angeles.

"Los Angeles is building housing at record levels, but we have to do more to build housing for our seniors, working families and homeless women and children. We must shatter our record with a new, \$500 million investment in housing," Mayor Hahn said. "We have doubled the pace of housing production with the help of our \$100 million Housing Trust Fund, but we must comprehensively address this crisis and plan for our future with a new \$500 million investment in housing."

Mayor Hahn said the \$500 million would be invested to continue and expand the City's support for a wide range of housing, from homes that working families can afford to buy to short-term housing to help homeless people get off the streets.

In addition to the \$500 million bond, Mayor Hahn announced new housing initiatives including:

- \$10 million in funding for homeownership programs including the city's first-ever program to help moderate-income families (like those of firefighters, teachers and police officers) buy homes through no interest loans of up to \$80,000, and a new program to support the construction of new affordable for-sale housing.
 - An initiative to help seniors stay in their homes by providing loans to finance significant plumbing, roof and other repairs.
 - An initiative to help mom and pop property owners make repairs to duplexes and small apartment buildings, a key component of the City's housing stock.
- Mayor Hahn said increasing Los Angeles' housing stock will help Los Angeles' economy.

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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 digital photos to: moments@cityemployeesclub.com
Send paper notices and print photos to: *Alive!* 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071

Retirements

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	#YEARS
George Amann	Transportation Engineer	Transportation	34
Shirley Blue	Chief Legislative Rep.	Mayor's Office	18
Lynn Eakle	Wastewater Trmt. Mech.	Public Works	31
Richard Green	Garage Attendant	Gen. Services	30
Albert Haas	Sr. Building Inspector	Building and Safety	31
Sumi Haru	Perform. Arts Prog. Coord.	Cultural Affairs	13
Ellis Hausken	Sr. Electrician	Rec and Parks	39
Gloria Iverson	Sr. Admin. Analyst	CAO	23
Suzanne Johnson	Sr. Accountant	Public Works	30
Calvin Jones	Sr. Computer Operator	ITA	21
Luis Juarez	Buyer	Gen. Services	19
Bruce Kraxberger	Hvy. Duty Equip. Mech.	Gen. Services	22
Janet Le Blanc	Special Officer	Airports	27
Blanca Lissow	Reprographic Oper.	Public Works	15
Jean Markham	Clerk Typist	Public Works	12
Peter Mason	Deputy City Atty.	City Attorney	26
Joseph Mattingly	Retire Plan Mgr.	Fire and Police Pensions	37
James Robinson	Sr. Mgmt. Analyst	CDD	22
Jose Rosales Gardener	Caretaker	Rec and Parks	20
Marcelina Santos	Accountant	Public Works	24
Francis Secrest	Mech. Repairer	LAPD	20
Robert Seigoso	Auto Body Bldr/Rpr.	Gen. Services	26
Alphesia Thomas	Equip. Mech.	LAFD	16
Sylvia Williams	Sr. Clerk Typist	Public Works	24

Alive! and your City Employees Club wishes to thank each and every one of the following, who have spent many years making Los Angeles the great city it is. Congratulations, and enjoy your well-deserved rewards!



Promotions

Promotions:

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



William Flowers, Airport Maintenance Supervisor III with LAWA at LAX

It's been quite a time recently for William Flowers. First, he was promoted to Airport Maintenance Supervisor III with LAWA at LAX. He had been supervisor I.

Also, he just turned 50. Congratulations!

And finally, his son Ryan returned from serving with the U.S. Navy in Iraq. Great news that is safe after serving our country.

Renee Ellis, promoted to Landscape Architect, Public Works (Engineering).

Joel Ramelli, promoted to Engineer of the Fire Department, Fire Station 88, LAFD.

New Employees

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.
Kirsten Friar,	Curator of Education,	Zoo
Christopher Rodriguez,	part-time Animal Keeper,	Zoo
Daniella Retamal,	Assistant Park Service Attendant,	Zoo
Brittany Brooks,	Assistant Park Service Attendant,	Zoo
Brian Thompson,	Assistant Park Service Attendant,	Zoo
Kevin Harback,	Assistant Park Service Attendant,	Zoo
Marc Howard,	Custodial Services Attendant,	Zoo
Patrick Ayers,	Custodial Services Attendant,	Zoo
Tamika Patterson,	Custodial Services Attendant,	Zoo
Charles Anderson,	Custodial Services Attendant,	Zoo
John Lasmarias,	CE Associate II, Land Development,	Public Works (Engineering)
Carlton Everfield,	Field Engineering Aide,	Public Works (Engineering)

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Births

Hailley Heerman, born Dec. 18 to **Officer Trevor Heerman** and his wife, **Karla**. Officer Heerman is assigned to DOT Valley.



Robert Riley of Department of Transportation-Valley Division had a new granddaughter on 11/24/2004. Her name is **Danyell Riley**.

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



Club Graduations

Alive! is delighted to continue publishing graduation photos of Club members and their children. Have a photo of a recent graduation? Send it in to *Alive!* Graduations, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

Stephanie Rose Perry, daughter of **Marcella Butler**, retiree from the Date Service Bureau (now Information Systems), received her Master's degree in educational research and development from Pepperdine University in summer 2004 with honors as a straight "A" student. She received her Bachelor's degree in sociology from the University of California at Los Angeles. She also received a certification of completion of programs in administration and management in human resource and development. Stephanie is also bilingual.

Congratulations Stephanie and Marcella!



In Memoriam

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

NAME	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
Active		
Carlos Bernal	City Attorney	17
William Davison	LAPD	14
Juergen Franks	LAPD	1
Roger Hernandez	LAPD	1
Olive Joseph	Public Works	12
Joseph Kelly	Aging	7
Tony Rodriguez	Gen. Services	22
Retired		
Will Bowers	Public Works	13
Joseph Cantaneda	Comm. Development	36
Charles Chapman	City Council	25
Kevin Cullen	Public Works	20
Beulah Fitz	Library	26
John Gibbs	Animal Services	19
Harold Ginzler	Public Works	18
Robert Gurule	Building and Safety	13
Casey Hagood	Public Works	26
Lester House	Trans.	19
Gertrude Keely	Building and Safety 2	8
Donald Kenton	Public Works	10
Josephine Matzger	Library	33
Ronald Maze	Rec and Parks	24
Mary McLaughry	Mayor's Office	9
Joseph Messina	Rec and Parks	16
Frances Moody	Receiving Hospital	20
George Morrow	Building and Safety	33
Merton Overton	LAPD	25
Leonard Payton	Airports	12
Eileen Peterson	Rec and Parks	23
Peggy Phillips	Cultural Affairs	6
James Pruett	Building and Safety	33
Cyril Reach	Pubic Works	23
Arthur Reynolds	Library	20
Joseph Rossetta	Airports	17
Leonard Schinazi	LAPD	12
Elizabeth Scott	Library	35
Thomas Shimazu	Public Works	39
Dominick Turiace	Rec and Parks	32
Bernard Whitmore	Public Works	31

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

Just Married? or Had a Baby?



We Have a Gift for You!

City employees and/or Club members: Did you just get married? ... had a baby? Congratulations!

If you send in a wedding photo or a baby photo to *Alive!* along with some basic information (who, when, where, your job titles), we'll be happy to run an announcement.

If it's a wedding, The Club will send you the book **Our Honeymoon: A Record Book About Our Wild Ride** free as our

wedding gift! The book is a record keeper and photo album all in one.

If it's a birth, The Club will send you the book **My Life as a Baby** free as our baby gift! It highlights the baby's first year, from the baby's point of view, with space for all the important information and lots of photos.

Don't delay. Send in those pictures and information to moments@cityemployeesclub.com



Weddings

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



New Members

The Club gives a great big welcome to these new members, who recently joined the Club:

Welcome New Members!

Maria Abdella	Annie Griffin	John Rodgers
Jay Abellanosa	Ronald Hardie	Eddie Rodriguez
Lorena Aguilar	Janene Henderson	Rosanne Rodriguez
Mary Alexander	Sharon Hendrix	Fabian Romero Jr.
Aletha Allen	Tania Henriquez	Armando Rosas
John Alvarez	Arturo Hernandez	Brent Rosser
Esther Ancurio	Adriana Herrera	Traci Rubner
Jasmine Anderson	Cristal Hobson	Pascal Sarkissian
Alonzo Archuleta	Phillip Holloway	Cecco Secci
Carol Armstrong	Marquietta Jackson	Peggy Shannon
Francisco Avitia	Edwin Jefferson	Robert Simanovich
Marc-Gregory Barrett	Jeanette Kidd	Clayton Simmons
Mark Bascom	Shirlene Lamore	Rickey Smith
Daniel Benner	Angel Lara	Richard Sokolowski
Ramon Bernal	Alicia Layton	Michael Stevens
Donato Campos	Michael Lee	Brian Stitt
Mary Campos	Linh Lee-Ngo	Lim Yuk Szeto
Carlisa Carter	Arthur Limon	Gayle Takahashi-Hara
Norma Castaneda	Melvin Lowe	Techkong Thiem
Paul Cavallaro	Wilmer Madrid	Victoria Thomas
Leonard Churn	Marcela Magallanes	Robert Thompson
Arlecia Clay	Garigab Magistrado	Raymond Thornton
Yesenia Cobian	Oscar Martinez	Takisha Timmons
Flory Cook	Barbara Martinoff	Jose Torres
Estrelita Crook	Marvina McAdory	Mauricio Tugonon
Greg Curry	Stephen Meighan	Rochelle Turpin
Philip Davidson	Alise Nathan	Sabas Valencia
Lela DeBord	Dweeda Newton	Israel Valle
David Del Toro	Craig Nonnemaker	Oscar Vargas
Jacqueline Diaz-Rodriguez	George Oghigian	Francisco Verdugo
Kelly Dobson	Ambrocio Ortega	Dawnitta Verrett
Fred Dowell	Susie Parish	Carolina Watson
Allen Eaglin	Debra Park	Gwendolyn Weaver
Daphne Edison	Jeff Pastor	Patricia Weeks
Frank Enriquez	Aldean Powell	Yan Wen
Ramon Fabella	Christopher Price	Kenya Wiley
Armando Fernandez	Bruce Pugh	Leonard Williams
Ana Flores	Qi-Shi Qi	Donnie Williams
Albert Gerardo	Jorge Ramos	Hope Wright
Phil Giesseman	John Reamer Jr.	Richard Yakel
Richard Gomez	James Ricard	Gabriel Yopez
Helen Gordon	Peter Ritter	Guadalupe Zamora
Carlton Gray	Lisa Roberts	Antonia Zuniga



BY Michelle Moreno, City Events Guru

Michelle on the Move

EVENTS

what's happening ? what's happening ?

February



Mardi Gras, Black History Month Grace This February

Hello folks!

Welcome back to Events 411! So how are your New Year's resolutions going? Did you think I'd forget about them? On the contrary, I'm still waiting for them ... where are they? I'm very interested in knowing what you wonderful City employees are hoping to achieve for 2005. As for me, my procrastination has somewhat improved - I am only three days late to the editor with my article! (More events just keep popping up.)

So, did you enjoy the rainy January weather? I must admit I was disappointed that the Disney on Ice show at Pershing Square was canceled due to the rain. I was very much looking forward to seeing the Monsters, Inc. cast and more importantly enjoying a free Disney show (free and Disney don't seem to quite fit together, do they?). But it's okay because there are so many more free events out there!

First off, Olvera Street has updated its official website: www.olvera-street.com. It is filled with great facts and, more importantly, great free events open to the public. You can celebrate Mardi Gras, Chinese New Year, the Lantern Festival and much more, so why not take a look.

Speaking of great events, did you know February is Black History Month? There are several great events in which to participate, including the Pan African Film and Arts Festival, the Black History Month Celebration at the L.A. Zoo, and the Jazz Tap Ensemble & Heritage Chorale concert at World City Music Festival.

Lastly, don't forget February is also the celebration of Mardi Gras/Carnaval. For you adults looking to party and celebrate Carnaval, (you know who you are), why not attend the 2005 Brazilian Carnaval. This is a great party filled with dancing, great costumes, food and more, as well as an entrance fee.

So as you can see, February is a month filled with plenty of celebration.

Once again, I must be on the move. I hope you enjoyed this month's Events 411 and I wish you a great Valentine's Day! See you around the City!

If you know of any events occurring in the Los Angeles or have any opinions or suggestions on the events listed, please send them in: michelleonthemove@cityemployeesclub.com

For more events around the City, visit these Websites:

- www.losangelesalmanac.com
- www.experiencela.com
- www.laweekly.com
- www.culturela.org

Know of any great City events? Let me know!

I'll be happy to include your event in my monthly column. (Listings are limited to City events, with an emphasis(although not exclusively) on families. Make sure to include dates, times, locations, costs (if any) and contact information. Email me at: MichelleOnTheMove@cityemployeesclub.com or call me at (800) 464-0452.

Pan African Film and Arts Festival

Enjoy one of "America's largest fine art shows featuring prominent and emerging black artists and fine crafts people," according to the official website. More than 100 quality films will be shown from all over the world.

Date(s): Feb. 10-21
 Time: TBA, please call for visit website
 Site: Magic Johnson Theatre
 Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza
 4020 Marlon Ave, Los Angeles
 Cost: TBA, please call or visit website
 More info: (213) 896-8221, (323) 295-1706 or www.paff.org



Mardi Gras at Olvera Street

"Celebrate Fat Tuesday Olvera Street style with Brazilian singing and dancing, a colorful parade, crowning of Miss Olvera Street, and costume contest."

Date(s): Feb. 8
 Time: Noon - 10 p.m.
 Site: Olvera Street, Los Angeles
 Cost: Free
 More info: (213) 485-6855 or www.olvera-street.com
 City Sponsor: El Pueblo/Olvera Street

Black History Month Celebration at the L.A. Zoo

Bring the family to celebrate Black History Month. Guests will enjoy tour guides of African plants/animals, as well as live entertainment, food, crafts and more.

Date(s): Feb. 12 - 13
 Time: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Site: Los Angeles Zoo
 5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles
 Cost: \$7/adult, \$4/child (discount prices at Club Headquarters)
 \$10/adult, \$7/senior, \$5/child (ages 2 to 12), free/children (under 2)
 More info: (323) 644-4200 or www.lazoo.org
 City Sponsor: Los Angeles Zoo

Chinese American Museum Lantern Festival

Bring the family to the fourth annual Lantern Festival and "enjoy a colorful street fair featuring live music, exciting dance performances, magic shows, martial arts demonstrations, storytelling and much more" (from the Experience L.A. website).

Date(s): Feb. 19
 Time: Noon - 6 p.m.
 Site: Olvera Street, Los Angeles
 Cost: Free
 More info: (213) 485-6855 or www.olvera-street.com



Chinese New Year Parade

Another celebration for Year of the Rooster filled with a weekend full of fun: a parade, car show, live entertainment and more.

Date(s): Feb. 12 - 13
 Time: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.
 Parade: 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. (Feb. 12)
 Car show: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. (Feb. 13)
 Site: Chinatown, Los Angeles
 Cost: Free
 More info: (213) 617-0396 or www.lagoldendragonparade.com

Brazilian Carnaval 2005

Bring your friends along and celebrate Mardi Gras with the largest "Carnaval Party in Southern California," according to event organizers. Enjoy a night of dancing, costumes, food, entertainment and more!

Date(s): Feb. 12
 Time: Begins at 8 p.m.
 Site: Queen Mary
 1126 Queens Highway, Long Beach
 Cost: \$35/general admission (\$40 at the door)
 \$45/reserved table seats (\$50 at the door)
 \$60/VIP table seats (\$65 at the door)
 More info: (818) 566-1111 or www.brazilianites.com

World City Music Festival - Jazz Tap Ensemble & Heritage Chorale

Come and enjoy this free jazz song and dance performance by the Heritage Chorale from Faithful Central Bible Church. This is part of the 2005 season of "World City," "an admission-free Saturday performance series designed to celebrate the diverse cultural traditions reflected in the Los Angeles population."

Date(s): Feb. 19
 Time: 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.
 Site: Walt Disney Concert Hall
 111 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles CA
 Cost: Free
 More info: (213) 972-7211 or www.musiccenter.org/education/worldcity.html

Queen Mary Scottish Festival & Games

"Come help us celebrate the Scottish Heritage of the Queen Mary. This unique ship exemplifies the fine craftsmanship of Scotland," says the official website. Enjoy the celebration with Scottish culture with dances, music and much more!

Date(s): Feb. 19 - 20
 Time: Begins at 8 a.m.
 Site: Queen Mary
 1126 Queens Highway, Long Beach
 Cost: One-day price: \$19/adult, \$17/senior, military, \$13 child
 Two-day price: \$25/adult, \$23/senior, military, \$17 child
 More info: (562) 499-1650 or www.queenmary.com, click on Special Events

The Complete Whalewatch

Bring the family for an education on gray whales. Program begins with a slide show and is then followed by a voyage in search of gray whales and other marine life.

Date(s): Feb. 27
 Time: 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Site: John M. Olguin Auditorium
 Cabrillo Marine Aquarium,
 3720 Stephen M White Dr., San Pedro
 Cost: \$17 (\$15/members) Pre-registration required.
 More info: Larry Fukuhara at (310) 548-7562 or www.cabrilloaq.org/voyages.html



March



Los Angeles Marathon

Come and participate in a famous Los Angeles tradition. You could run, walk, volunteer or just cheer on the participants.

Date: March 6
 Time: 6 am: L.A. Bike Tour
 8:05 am: Wheelchair race
 8:18 am: Hand crank wheelchair race
 8:30 am: Marathon
 9:30 am: 5-K run/walk
 Site: Course begins on Sixth and Figueroa Sts. and finishes on Flower St. at Fifth.
 See website for further route information
 Cost: Registration is \$75 - \$85
 More info: (310) 444-5544 or www.lamarathon.com

Arbor Day Planting on Imperial Highway Event

How would you like to spend a day helping nature by planting 100 trees along Imperial Highway? Bring the family, friends and neighbors for a day helping out Mother Nature.

Date: March 12
 Time: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Site: Median of Imperial Highway, east of El Segundo's Main Street
 Cost: Free/volunteer
 More info: (310) 322-0263 or www.treemusketeers.org/index.asp

Meet the Grunion

Come watch the silvery fish come up on the beach to spawn. Don't forget to bring a bucket, flashlight and warm clothing. (Day is subject to change, so please call or visit website to confirm.)

Date: March 12
 Time: 8 p.m. (aquarium opens)
 9 pm (auditorium program begins)
 10:40 p.m.-12:40 a.m. (Grunion run)
 Site: Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, 3720 Stephen White Dr., San Pedro
 Cost: \$5/adults, \$1/seniors and children (fee for Aquarium)
 Free (Grunion Run)
 More info: (310) 548-7562 or www.cabrilloaq.org

World City Music Festival - Patrick Ball and The Tinkers

If you like Irish and Scottish culture, this event is definitely for you. Bring family, friends, or just yourself and enjoy the traditional sounds of the Celtic harp and the Scottish bagpipes, as well as wonderful stories.

Date(s): March 12
 Time: 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m.
 Site: Walt Disney Concert Hall
 111 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles CA
 Cost: Free
 More info: (213) 972-7211 or www.musiccenter.org/education/worldcity.html

Big Bunny's Spring Fling

Bring the kids for a day of fun: "pet a fuzzy bunny, plant your own carrot, have your face painted, make a be-a-bunny craft, have your photo taken with Big Bunny and enjoy children's musical entertainment," (says the official website).

Date(s): March 25 - 27
 Time: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 Site: Los Angeles Zoo
 5333 Zoo Dr., Los Angeles
 Cost: \$7/adult, \$4/child (discount prices at Club Headquarters)
 \$10/adult, \$7/senior, \$5/child (ages 2 to 12), free/children (under 2)
 More info: (323) 644-4200 or www.lazoo.org
 City Sponsor: Los Angeles Zoo

what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ? what's happening ?

Should Hate Crime Laws Protect City Workers?

Terrorism

Continued from Page 1

the FBI in their pursuit of the vandals who terrorized her.

On Dec. 24, her home and vehicles were vandalized and damaged in attacks that were made personal. And they are only the latest in a string of publicized attacks on City employees for doing a job that might not be considered pleasant by some, but are essential to the safety of the human beings who live in this City.

On that morning, members of a radical and militant animal rights group showed up at Jackie's home and defaced and vandalized her home and two vehicles. "ALF [Animal Liberation Front] eyes on you" was spray-painted on her home. They damaged and sprayed her vehicles with black paint and a corrosive (believed by the LAPD to be oven cleaner). "Resign (expletive)" was painted on her garage doors. Her initials "JD," with a line across it, were also spray-painted on her garage door. A dead "smilie" was painted on her front door next to a Christmas wreath and holiday décor.

"These folks have been to my home on many other occasions and they continue to come," David says. "They have threatened and continue to threaten me and my children. The Mayor's Office, City Councilmembers, the Department and my City family as a whole have been sympathetic and have bent over backwards to help make it right and fix my home and vehicles. This is heart-warming."

Still, David adds, she is disconcerted. "The City wants to help, but no one is able to stop this – not the Union, not the Mayor, not the Police, not the FBI, not the City Attorney. The fact stands: LAPD cannot provide me with an armed guard 24 hours a day. My children, my mother and I stand alone to face this."

The acts perpetrated against her and her colleagues are both illegal and despicable. Working for the City has always required dedication. And now it requires courage as well.

L.A. Animal Services has received a lot of news coverage over the past year and a half about how certain militant animal rights groups continue to harass, intimidate, threaten and terrorize City officials, managers and staff working for or involved with L.A. Animal Services.

According to Jackie, the militant groups consist mainly of a handful (10, maybe 20) of noisy activists who call themselves the Animal Defense League (ADL), which might have enlisted the support of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) – a group she says can be described as "... the nation's most active extreme animal rights movement ... it aims to inflict economic damage to those who profit from the misery and exploitation of animals."

Jackie says that, according to the ADL and ALF, the Department of Animal Services euthanizes too many animals (about half of the animal population entering shelters). She says that they contend that L.A. Animal Services should have no-kill shelters – instantly and overnight. Since "instantly" and "overnight" are both impossibilities, the Department of Animal Services, its managers, and staff are branded as inept, incompetent, stupid and lazy by these groups, she contends. Those on this list of targets also include the following and their staff: the Mayor, City Councilmembers, the City Attorney, Police Department, and any judges who rule against them, etc.

Jackie provides these facts:

- There is no such thing as a no-kill shelter. All responsible humane shelters euthanize animals that are suffering, sick or aggressive. The concept of a "no kill" shelter is pure myth at this time. What is achievable is a shelter that does not have to euthanize animals for lack of space.
- The City of Los Angeles, like other municipalities nationwide, has a severe pet overpopulation crisis.
- City government shelters do not have the luxury of picking and choosing which animals they will accept. L.A. Animal Services is mandated to accept all animals.
- Shelters such as the San Francisco SPCA and similar organizations that claim they are "no kill" have the luxury of selecting which animals

they will accept and which ones they will turn away. Animals that are sick, aggressive or that do not look adoptable are "sent across the street" to the city shelter for killing. The animals are still killed, just not at the "no kill" facilities.

- Last year, L.A. Animal Services impounded more than 60,000 animals: dogs, cats, horses, rabbits, turtles, mice, pigs, birds, etc. The Department has six shelters, with a finite number of kennels to hold animals. These kennels that were designed to hold one or two animals actually hold up to seven or eight animals at a time. As a result of large populations entering shelters and a finite number of kennels, animals that are sick and not displaying symptoms are placed in the same kennels with healthy ones. It is a known fact that over time, a healthy animal entering a shelter will eventually become sick due to exposure and close proximity to other animals that may be sick.
- Animals that are sick are euthanized. It can cost up to \$10,000 to treat a single sick animal. The City does not have the resources to pay for the extensive medical treatment of each animal at its shelters.
- A significant number of aggressive animals enter City shelters. These are mostly dogs that have attacked people and/or animals. They are not friendly, and you do not want to see them loose on your City street. L.A. Animal Services provides humane organizations with the opportunity to adopt animals that are deemed aggressive. Few are actually adopted. Those that are not adopted are humanely euthanized.

L.A. Animal Services is about saving lives and has been working towards that goal long before any militant animal rights groups ever came forward.

Jackie provides more facts:

- Euthanasia rates have dropped to about 50 percent – the lowest rate ever in the City's history. While this is still an unacceptable rate for the Department, the rate does continue with its downward trend – with or without the prodding of militant animal rights groups.
- Adoption rates have increased tremendously to about 30 percent – another first in the City's history.
- L.A. Animal Services is the only government agency that offers a variety of free and low-cost spay/neuter programs to the general public.

L.A. Animal Services continues to strive to place all adoptable animals and to decrease the number of animals euthanized for lack of space.

ADL tactics have consisted of launching personal attacks on City Officials and L.A. Animal Services employees on their websites where they are featured as "players/targets" with bullet holes around their names. The ADL website spews forth statements about employees' personal and professional lives that Jackie knows are not true. The ADL verbally assaults employees at public venues – especially Commission meetings – and they terrorize and threaten employees and their families at their homes, Jackie tells us.

So far, militant animal rights groups have caused damage to the homes and property of former General Manager Jerry Greenwalt, the Department's current Director of Field Operations, and the Department's former adoption coordinator, Jackie informs us.

In an article, The Anti-Defamation League (a Law Enforcement Agency Resource Network) states: "In recent years, an increasing amount of terrorist activity in the United States has been carried out in the name of animal and environ-



Images of the vandalism that occurred at the home of *Alive!* columnist and Animal Services Dept. spokeswoman Jackie David.

mental protection ... Although no one has yet been injured ... the increasingly violent nature of attacks suggests that someone will be hurt before long.

The article also quotes Dr. Jerry Vlasak, spokesman for the North American Animal Liberation Press Office, as saying:

"I think violence is a part of the struggle against oppression ... I think for five lives, 10 lives, 15 human lives, we could save a million, 2 million 10 million non-human lives."

What can be done? What is being done?

"The police and FBI have the information and are doing whatever it is they do with the information while the ADL and ALF hide behind their lawyers and first amendment rights," Jackie says. She has written Congressman Sherman asking for help. She has also written Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger asking that hate crimes include communities of workers.

In the meantime, Jackie and other ADL targets have no choice but to sit tight, take the brunt of attacks and harassment one day at a time, and hope for the best.

Wanna be heard?

What do you think of the violence and harassment suffered by Jackie David and other City employees? What should be done about it? Tell us what you think: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

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“Celebrate America” Creative Writing Contest

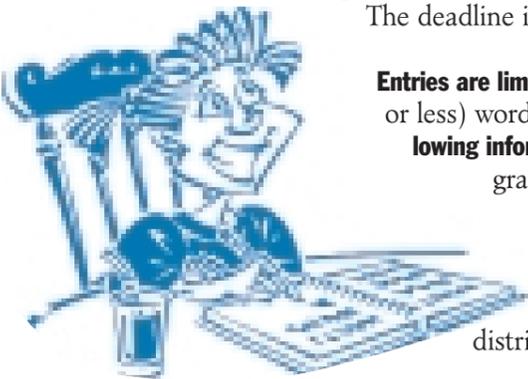
All 5th graders, would you like to participate in a writing contest and tell everyone “Why I Am Glad America Is A Nation Of Immigrants”?

Any written piece - poem, essay, story, interview, etc. is welcome for the CELEBRATE AMERICA Creating Writing Contest sponsored by American Immigration Lawyers Foundation.

PRIZES

- \$200 cash
- 2 amusement park annual passes
- Award dinner for the entire family.

Entries will be judged on the basis of theme, presentation, creativity and message. The deadline is February 28, 2005.



Entries are limited to (word limit, 500 or less) words. **Please include the following information:** your name, grade (must be 5th grade), age, school, address, telephone number, email address (in any), your school district/city.

Please mail your entry to:

Linda Lau, Vice Chair
American Immigration Lawyers Association
Southern California Chapter
350 South Figueroa Street, Suite 760
Los Angeles CA 90071



The Pet Club

Have a Heart

■ You can save a life on Valentine's Day with a pet gift certificate.

Think out of the chocolate box this Valentine's Day and Save-a-Life/Enhance-a-Life with a Valentine's pet gift certificate.

What is it? Well, it's a gift certificate that lets your true love(s) pick out his/her own pet/companion animal – another creature, animal, living thing, being to love for life.

Pet gift certificates come with cute cards for Valentine's Day messages and are available in a variety of amounts (actually, any amount of your choosing). They are available at all City Shelters (hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Tues.-Sat., and noon to 4 p.m. Sundays).

Picture it: You show up with red roses of passion and, instead of a (fattening) box of chocolates, you have a “classy” pet gift certificate tucked amongst the flowers that says: Your love has inspired me to save a life or Our Love has Saved a Life or some such romantic thought...I don't know, you figure it out.

When you adopt an animal from a City of Los Angeles Shelter, the adoption fee you pay covers vaccinations, spaying/neutering, a microchip and (for dogs) a license. The average cost to adopt a dog or cat from a City shelter is anywhere from \$38 to \$92 depending on the kind of animal, size, spay/neuter requirements, etc. Yes, all dogs and cats adopted from shelters must be spayed or neutered.

Since we are on the subject, I am compelled to share with you that Feb. 26 is SpayDay USA. What's that? Well, I wondered too when I first heard. Spayday is the one day of the year when private citizens nationwide are encouraged to take responsibility for having one dog or cat spayed or neutered to help end pet overpopulation.

Pet overpopulation is a big problem. In Los Angeles, it is estimated that residents could own as many as 828,000 dogs and more than a million cats – this in addition to thousands of stray dogs and cats roaming City neighborhoods, streets and highways. Taxpayers bear the cost of picking up, housing and (very sad but very true and very unavoidable) eventually euthanizing these homeless animals. When you spay or neuter a dog or cat, it helps end unwanted births, reduces the needless suffering of our poor homeless animals and saves taxpayers some money too.

Here are a couple of stat facts you may find of interest: Two unaltered cats and all their off-

spring can theoretically produce 420,000 cats in just seven years. Two unaltered dogs and all their offspring can theoretically produce 67,000 dogs in just six years. Yikes! Want to stop the tango and help these animals relax a bit? Then spay/neuter.

What exactly is spaying and neutering? Well, they are common surgical procedures that prevent animals from being able to reproduce. When a female is spayed, her ovaries, fallopian tubes and uterus are removed. When a male is neutered, his testicles are removed. Sorry, you had to know.

How bad is it? Well, I have a white male Tootsie poodle and a white female Mimi poodle, both adopted from the North Central Shelter. Neither seemed traumatized by the surgery and are two happy “scampers” around my home. Neither seems to miss anything, and they are in animal bliss. (Come one guys. It will be fine. Take your macho dog to the vet. It won't make him less protective. It won't make him fat. Just do it and don't give it another thought.)

If it makes you feel better, getting your animal fixed does provide health benefits. For one thing, it greatly reduces the risk of breast cancer and prevents various reproductive disorders. Neutering also resolves undesirable behaviors such as aggression, spraying, and roaming and eliminates the risk of various testicular diseases. Besides, if you spay/neuter, then you won't have to deal with blood stains on rugs and furniture from a female in “heat;” or a male pet who “mounts” people or sprays furniture with urine; or a yard full of neighborhood animals attracted by your female pet (no dog parties); or a litter which you must care for and find homes for.

Prices for spay/neuter surgery vary – anywhere from \$35 to \$100 or a little over depending on the size and health of the animal. Check with your local vet. If you are a senior, are disabled, have limited resources or have no resources to spay/neuter, then call (888) 4LA-PET1 for information on our special discounted or free spay/neuter programs.

So...for Valentine's Day, you can give the gift of spay/neuter to a pet and/or give that special gift of compassion to your true love: a pet gift certificate that will save a life and teach gentleness, compassion, kindness and empathy – what better gift than this on Valentine's Day?



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Send Questions

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

Jackie David, Public Information Director, L.A. Animal Services



Cooking with the Club

by our own
Robert Larios



Send Us Your Recipes!

If you would like your recipe published in the next issue of *Alive!*, you may fax your recipes to (213) 620-0398 or e-mail us at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com.

A Cake Fit for a King

Already it's February 2005. We are in the second month of the year. My question is how? The months just seem to fly by faster than I can cook a 20-minute meal.

February is not just any month. It's a month filled with some great food-related events including Mardi Gras, the Super Bowl (instead of the traditional last week of January), and Valentine's Day.

Knowing full well that you have been keeping up with my recipes, I have given you some awesome Super Bowl recipes and hopefully you not only followed the recipe directions, but that you made sure to follow the basic cleanliness, time, and temperature concepts. These concepts will be touched on throughout the year because good food is safe food.

Mardi Gras is a time for food in New Orleans like no other. Seafood including gulf shrimp is used for po' boy sandwiches and jambalaya. In all actuality, seafood is a major component to many of the Mardi Gras dishes. I have included a shrimp jambalaya recipe for you try. The deserts are amazing as well. Try the famous king cake known here as King Burnes Cake, brought to us from *Alive!* editor John Burnes.

This King Cake a Creole cake whose history is the history of the famous New

Orleans carnivals celebrated in song and stories. The "King's Cake," or Gateau de Roi, is inseparably connected with the origin of the city's now world-famed carnival balls. In fact, they owe their origin to the old Creole custom of choosing a king and queen on King's Day, or Twelfth Night.

You can also add a small plastic baby to the mix before baking. Whoever selects the cake piece containing the baby is charged with bringing the King Cake next year. Placing this baby, of course, is optional. So if you can't find one at your local party headquarters, don't worry. New Orleans is all about no worries!

Valentine's Day is another great food day. It seems that this day is one that is synony-

mous with red wine, chocolates and roses. Although there are recipes that call for roses as an ingredient, I have instead included Sicilian Spaghetti Meatballs, Garlic Merlot Steak, and Cupid's Chicken Skewers for those of you who want to impress.

There are so many other recipes that can be made, so experiment but don't make your Valentine's Day dinner date your guinea pig for your new meal.



King Burnes Cake

INGREDIENTS

- 2 pounds flour
- 12 eggs
- Milk or water
- One cup sugar
- One pound butter
- 1/2 ounce yeast
- 1/2 ounce salt
- Candies to decorate
- Icing colored purple, green and gold/yellow
- Plastic baby, if you can find one.



DIRECTIONS

Take a pound and a half of the flour, and put it in a wooden bread trough. Make a hole in the center of the flour, and put in a half ounce of yeast, dissolved in a little warm water. Add milk or tepid water to make the dough, using milk if you want it to be very rich and delicate, and water if you have not the milk. Knead and mix the flour with one hand, while adding milk or water with the other. Make a dough that is neither too stiff or too soft, and when perfectly smooth set the dough to rise in a moderately warm place, covering with a cloth. Remember that if you use milk to make the dough it must be scalded, that is, must be heated to the boiling point, and then allowed to grow tepid.

Let the dough rise for five or six hours, and when increased to twice its bulk, take it and add the reserved half pound of flour, into which you will have sifted the salt. Add six eggs, beaten very light with the sugar and butter, and mix all well together, kneading lightly

with your hands, and adding more eggs if the dough is a little stiff.

Then knead the dough by turning it over on itself three times, and set to rise again for an hour or three-quarters of an hour. Cover with a cloth. At the end of this time take it up and work it again lightly, and then form into a great ring, leaving of course, a hole in the center. Pat gently and flatten a little. Have a baking pan ready, with a buttered sheet of paper in it, and set the central roll in the middle.

Cover the pan with a clean, stiff cloth, and set the cake to rise for an hour longer. When well risen, set in an oven a few degrees cooler than that used for baking bread (360°); let bake for an hour and a half; if medium, an hour, and if very small, a half hour. Glaze the brioche lightly with a beaten egg, spread lightly over the top before placing in the oven. Decorate with small candies, caramels, etc. If you want to add an icing, use purple, green and gold/yellow food colorings for the proper Mardi Gras touch.

Shrimp Jambalaya

INGREDIENTS

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 1 1/2 cup onions, chopped
- 1/2 cup green peppers, chopped
- 1 cup celery, chopped
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 1 bay leaf
- Salt to taste
- Cayenne pepper to taste
- 2 1/2 cups water
- 2 pounds raw shrimp, peeled
- 1 12-ounce can whole tomatoes
- 1 4-ounce can tomato sauce
- 2 cups rice, uncooked



DIRECTIONS

In a heavy-bottomed skillet over medium heat, heat the vegetable oil; add the flour and let it cook, slowly, stirring constantly, until golden brown. You're making a roux.

Add onions, pepper, celery, garlic, bay leaf and salt. Cook slowly until vegetables are transparent, stirring often.

Add the cayenne pepper, tomatoes and tomato sauce; cook until the oil rises to the top. Stir in the rice, shrimp and 2 1/2 cups water.

Cook, covered, over low heat until rice is tender. Add more oil and water if the jambalaya appears too dry.

Garnish with fresh parsley, if desired.

Cupid's Chicken Skewers

INGREDIENTS

- 2 skinless, boneless chicken breasts, sliced into long strips
- Wooden skewers

Marinade:

- 1 cup honey
- 2 sticks butter, melted
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 2 oz. Southern Comfort
- Juice of 1 lime
- 3 oz. balsamic vinegar

Dipping Sauce:

- 1 cup Chinese sweet chili sauce
- 2 oz. Southern Comfort
- 2 sprigs of cilantro (chopped)
- 1 lime (juiced)
- 1 teaspoon hot sauce
- 3 oz. honey
- 1 oz. sesame oil



DIRECTIONS

Combine marinade ingredients in a bowl, and set aside.

In a separate bowl, combine dipping sauce ingredients, and set aside.

Slide the skewers lengthwise through each piece of chicken breast. Place the skewered breasts in marinade and let stand 1 hour. Grill the chicken until done or lightly browned on each side. Remove from the grill and serve with the dipping sauce. Serves 4.

Garlic Merlot Steak

INGREDIENTS

- 1 12 - 14 oz. sirloin steak
- 1 teaspoon vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon finely chopped garlic or more to taste
- 6 teaspoons Merlot
- 3/4 cup beef stock or canned broth
- 3 teaspoons unsalted butter



DIRECTIONS

Sprinkle steak with salt and pepper. Heat oil in heavy large skillet over high heat. Add steak and cook until brown, about 1 minute per side. Reduce heat to medium and cook steak to desired doneness, about 3 minutes per side for medium-rare. Transfer steak to plate; tent with foil.

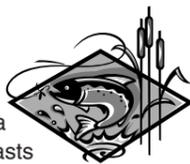
Add garlic to same skillet and sauté over medium-high heat 1 minute. Add Merlot; boil until reduced by half, about 2 minutes. Add stock; boil until syrupy, about 8 minutes. Remove skillet from heat. Add butter and whisk until melted. Season with salt and pepper. Cut steak into 2 pieces; place on plates. Spoon sauce over and serve. Serves 2.

CLUB CORNER

Join These Groups

Fly Fishing Enthusiasts

A club is forming in the Santa Clarita area for fly fishing enthusiasts with all levels of skill. Call Theodore J. Aquaro, (661) 513-1595.



Brown Sistas Book Club

Brown Sistas Book Club, based in Fontana and containing at least some City employees. Contact Eva Farlow: efarlow@atty.lacity.org



LA City Employee's Asian American Association

Established in 1971, the Los Angeles City Employees Asian American Association (LACEAAA) was formed to represent employees of Asian/Pacific Islander descent and assist in protecting them from discriminatory acts in their application to, and employment, with the City; and advance employment, education, economic, and social concerns of Asian/Pacific Islanders in City service; and resolve unique work-related problems of any Association member. Call (213) 847-2229 or write to LACEAAA, P.O. Box 86323, Los Angeles, CA 90086 or visit us at www.laceaaa.org.

Association of City Employees with Disabilities

The Association of City Employees with Disabilities (ACED) is committed to the recruitment, employment, retention and promotion of persons with disabilities. Also, ACED counsels and represents employees faced with discrimination on the job. Call Joe O'Toole at (213) 847-9213.

Affirmative Action Association for Women

Established by the City Council as the official representative for female City employees, the Affirmative Action Association for Women (AAAW) has been representing women for more than 25 years. The AAW is an employee advocate organization that gives particular attention to the advancement of women and minority employees of the City of Los Angeles. Its members, both male and female, serve on association, department, and Citywide committees that focus attention on personnel policies and practices and support a continuing commitment to equal employment opportunities as a basic principle of the City's merit system. Call (213) 847-AAAW, write to AAW, P.O. Box 53488, Los Angeles, CA 90053, or visit the Website at www.la-aaaw.org.

Alive! offers this space every month for Club members to invite other Club members to join their group. It could be work-related, or social, or all about your hobbies. Whatever it is, send us a notice at talkback@cityemployeesclub.com, and we'll post the notice free ... as a service to our members!

Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA)



The Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA) was established in 1971 and was the first City recognized employee Affirmative Action Association. Membership is open to anyone interested in supporting the goals and objectives of the organization. LACECA is dedicated to promoting equal employment opportunities in our workplace, City government and community. It sponsors and supports a variety of training events and seminars to assist employees in their career development. Meetings are usually held the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Personnel Department Building, 700 E. Temple Street. Contact Leonor Garcia, at (213) 847-2229, ext. 3 or write to LACECA, P.O. Box 53590, Los Angeles, CA 90053.

Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel

The mission of the Los Angeles Association of Black Personnel (LAABP) is to motivate, encourage and educate individuals to realize their dreams and move forward in their career within City government. Contact Steve King at (213) 580-5387 or write to LAABP, P.O. Box 53822, Los Angeles, CA 90043-0822.

Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees

In 1980, the Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees (LAFACE) was organized to serve as an advocate to the fast-growing number of Filipinos in City service. Its primary goal is to promote the general advancement of Filipinos in the City. LAFACE works cooperatively with other minority groups in promoting equal employment opportunities in the City. LAFACE does not limit its function to assisting Filipinos in acquiring employment, promotion, and passing examinations in the City, but also to promoting the economic, educational, social, and cultural advancement of Filipinos in the community. Contact Caroline Lorenzo (213) 978-3004 or write to P.O. Box 53389, Los Angeles, CA 90053.



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Critic's Corner What I Read

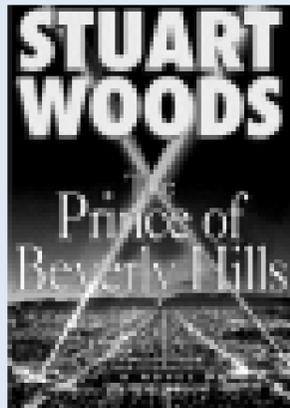
Read a great book lately? Tell your fellow Club members about it! Send in a paragraph or two about the book, plus the title, author, genre, number of pages and the publisher. Send your reviews to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Prince of Beverly Hills

Stuart Woods
311 pages
G.P. Putnam and Sons
Mystery

Stuart Woods has written a fantastic page-turning mystery that takes place in L.A. during the early 1940s.

Rick Barron is a disgruntled LAPD officer who saves Centurion Studios megastar Cleve Barrow from a disastrous public relations situation. As a result, Centurion Studio offers Rick a glamorous job as security



director with a salary he cannot refuse. Rick has his work cut out for him when mobster Chick Stampano begins to harass Centurion actresses and puts a hitman on Rick and his gorgeous girlfriend.

Stuart Woods weaves an excellent mystery and describes the posh Hollywood lifestyle of the 1940s wonderfully.

— Gloria Grover, Club Member

Critic's Corner What I Saw

Write a brief review of a current movie — give us the general plot line, whether you liked it, and whether it's appropriate for family audiences. If we print it, we'll send you two free movie tickets! So let's hear it! Send them to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Fat Albert



It's time again for a new review ... Hey hey hey! You all know where I'm going with this one. And if you don't then you're probably too young to be interested.

This review is for the large lovable cartoon-based character Fat Albert, though he may not be quite the one remembered from the cartoon. Still more than likely he'll be recognizable enough to those of us who grew up watching him on Saturday mornings. The movie-based Fat Albert (Kenan Thompson) drips with sugar and spice and everything nice, an obvious Theo for the year 2005.

Our story begins with a young teenage girl by the name of Doris (Kyla Pratt), who though likeable enough, has no friends and who seems to be disconnected from the world around her, though we're not told why until later.

Ah, hey, hey, hey and ahoy just the right time for our cartoon Fat Albert to jump into the real world and help a young sistah out. Of course Fat Albert's gang also jumps in to help solve our young teenager's problem. (Someone hand me a violin, please.)

From this point, anything is possible and this is where the love train becomes a little too sweet for moi. Though there were moments when the audience wasn't so quiet it felt like they were asleep, this one gets my yawn award. Strictly for the kids and adults who believe in the tooth fairy, Santa Claus and the magic of Disneyland.

You may be surprised by how absent parents are in this film. (Gone!)

If you have young ones this is a good movie to take them too. It'll be a good wholesome time for all, with a positive message scripted throughout. "You may even learn a thing or two ... Nah, nah, nah, gonna have a good time."

You may recognize cameos by Bill Cosby and Marques Houston, and this movie has some of the oldest looking teenagers I've ever seen.

Rated PG, for Puddingly Goocy.

— Dory Boyd, Sanitation

Ocean's 12



If you have not seen *Ocean's 11*, I recommend seeing it before you see *Ocean's 12*. The beginning of *Ocean's 12* contained flashbacks of what the characters did in *Ocean's 11*.

The start of the movie was slow and hard to follow. The scenes kept jumping back to each of the character's roles (Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, George Clooney, Julia Roberts, Don Cheadle and Andy Garcia) during *Ocean's 11*.

In *Ocean's 12*, Garcia now wants these crooks to pay him back the money they stole from him. The crew must come up with a new scheme. The new target is a museum in Paris. They plan to steal a valuable Fabergé egg.

Despite the slow start, the movie was entertaining and had some great twists as to how they stole the Fabergé egg. Katherine Zeta-Jones and Bernie Mac were also in the movie. I would recommend seeing the movie; there is some language that may not be appropriate for children.

— Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

Meet the Fockers



This is a sequel to *Meet the Parents*. I recommend seeing *Meet the Parents* first because it will make *Meet the Fockers* that much funnier.

This movie has a great crew: Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, Dustin

Hoffman and Barbra Streisand. Stiller's character Gaylor Focker (though De Niro always calls him Greg) drives down with his fiancé's parents in a motor home to meet Stiller's parents Hoffman and Streisand.

The movie has many funny scenes, more than were in the previews, surprisingly. I would definitely recommend seeing this movie; it will really make you laugh. I think due to language and some of the implied sexual connotations, I would not recommend it for young children.

— Stephanie Lazarus, LAPD

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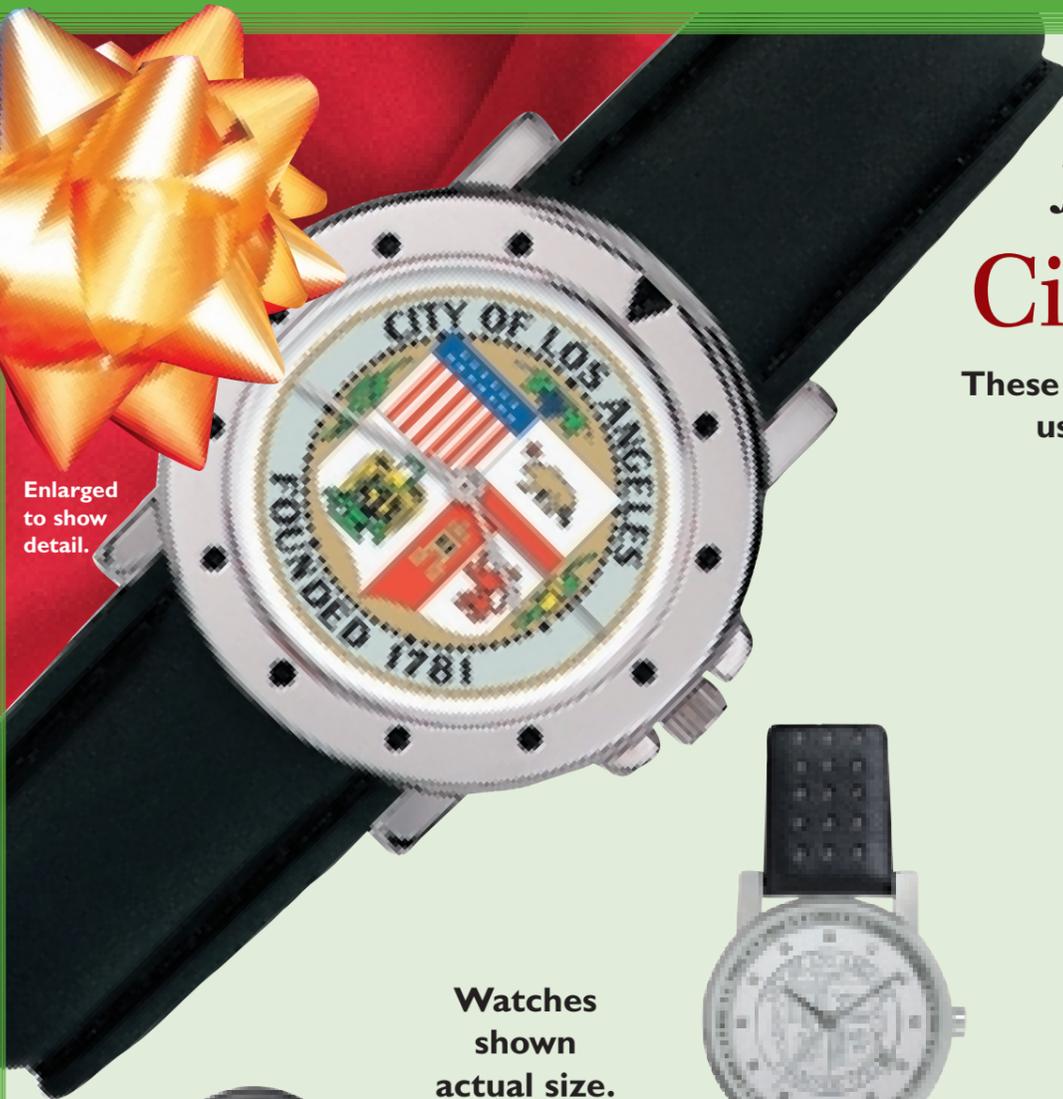
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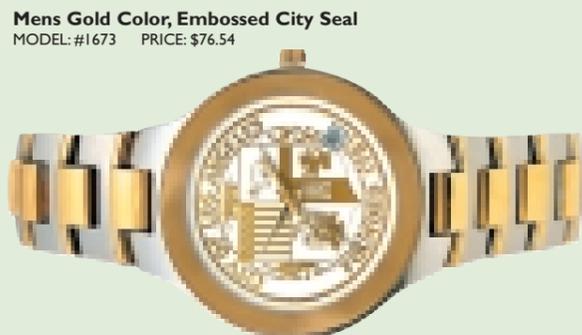
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Meet the Club Team

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

Need help? Find your Counselor

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



Beverly Haro
Member Services Counselor

Aging, Department of Community Development Department DWP Admin. DWP Financial Services Executive DWP Marketing and Customer Service DWP Water Services Employee Relations Board Environmental Affairs, Department of Fire Department Library Department Neighborhood Empowerment, Department of Pensions, Department of Fire & Police Personnel Department Transportation, Department of Street Services, Bureau of Zoo Department, Los Angeles



Arlene Herrero
Member Services Counselor

Building and Safety, Department of DWP Energy Services DWP Water Services (Aqueduct So. District) Engineering, Bureau of General Services, Department of Harbor Department Information Technology Agency Police Department Retirement System, City Employees' Sanitation, Bureau of



Liz Montes
Member Services Counselor

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