



The Joy Of Skiing!

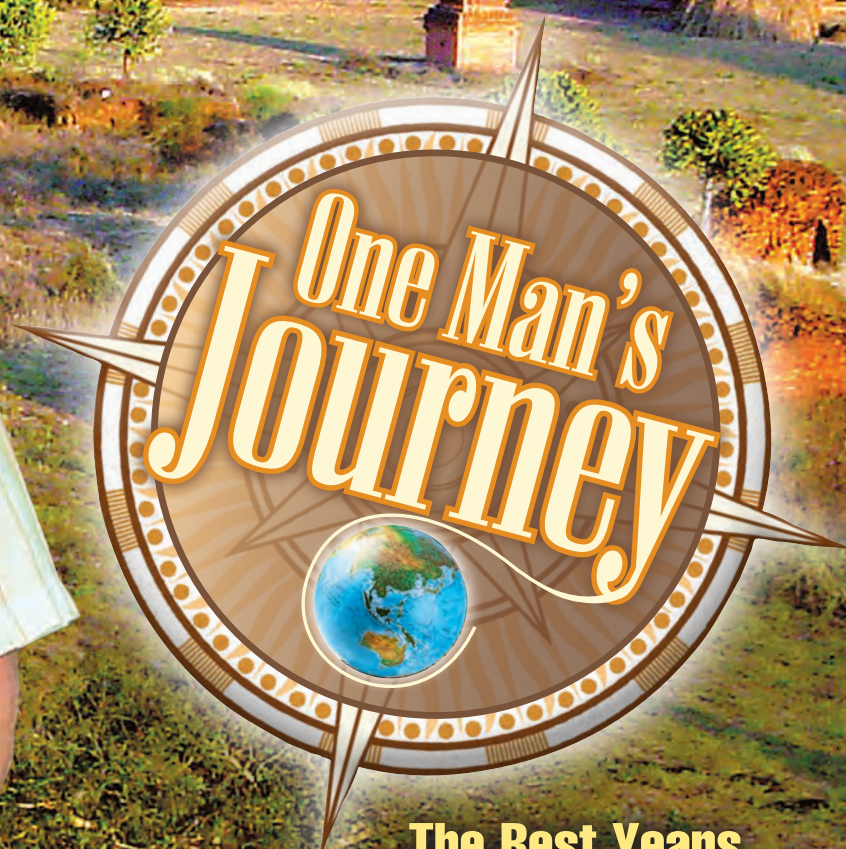
See
Page 45

Snow Valley
\$12 – \$37
Up to 50% Off!

**Big Bear/
Snow Summit**
\$19 – \$42
Up to 30% Off!



Alive!



The Best Years

Steve Newcomer, Library's Retired Director of Information Technologies and Collections, has visited every country on earth – 193 in all. For him, it was not about crossing them off a list, but living a life of adventure, challenge and deeper understanding that changed who he was.

Read about Steve's travels,
starting on page 24.

Steve Newcomer, Library, now retired,
in Bagan, Myanmar in the 2006.
Photo courtesy Steve Newcomer.



City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012



Club Valentine!

A Huge Valentines Section!



See
page
8

Club Member
Benefits

■ **Club Insurance**

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

- Group Rated Term Life Insurance (\$10,000–\$300,000)
- Auto and Homeowners Insurance Call Toll Free (888) 801-5522
- Group Rated Spouse Life Insurance (\$10,000–\$300,000)
- Group Rated Long-Term Disability
- Comprehensive Long-Term Care Insurance
- Cancer Insurance (\$10,000–\$50,000)
- Group Rated Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
- Identity Theft Plan
- Accident Insurance
- Security Builder Plan
- Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan
- Paycheck Protection Plus

■ **Great Ticket Discounts**

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

■ **Club Partner Discounts***

Avis Rent-a-Car

Visit www.cityemployeesclub.com for discount codes and passwords!

1-800-Flowers

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

Office Depot

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

WallyPark

Show your Club membership card and save 30%.

*Visit www.cityemployeesclub.com for more discounts.

The Club Offers the Cheapest Tickets in the City



Don't be fooled by others! The Club is the **ONLY** association in Los Angeles to offer the cheapest tickets in the City. The Club is constantly in search of new savings to benefit it's 20,500+ club members every day.

"Club Discount King"
Robert Larios



More Tickets and Club Discounts

www.CityEmployeesClub.com

Get your Car Bucks Auto Loan

New.
Used.
Refi.



We Beat Any Rate*

Plus

\$200

Instant Cash Back

And

No payment for 90 days[†]

Good credit, bad credit, no credit, no problem.



Granada Hills - 16840 Devonshire St. • Los Angeles - 1053 West Sunset Blvd.
Sun Valley - 8413 Laurel Canyon Blvd. • Westchester - 8800 S. Sepulveda Blvd.

Save money and put extra cash in your pocket now.

Our Power Auto Buying Service will find you an unbeatable lowest price deal. Get the best loan rate with WPCCU's **Beat-Any-Rate offer***. Plus, you'll get a **\$200 Power Cash[™]** rebate at loan funding. Applying is fast and easy, online or at a branch.

Get in, buckle up and get your cash now!

empowerloans.com
800-300-9728

* If you are preapproved or have an auto loan somewhere else, we'll beat that rate up to 1% lower than our posted auto rates. Some restrictions and conditions apply. The \$200 Power Cash is paid at loan funding. Promotional offer is not valid with other WPCCU promotions or for refinancing existing WPCCU auto loans. All loans subject to credit approval. Actual rate received is based on your credit qualifications.

[†] First payment may be deferred for 90 days. Interest will continue to accrue from date of loan disbursement and becomes due once payments begin. Deferred payment is not available for refinances of existing WPCCU auto loans. Some restrictions may apply. Not all applicants may qualify for this offer. This offer may not be combined with any other offer.

For complete details, visit empowerloans.com, call us anytime at 800-300-9728 or visit a branch nearest you. Federally insured by NCUA.

IN THIS ISSUE

Alive! February 2014

24 Cover Story:
One Man’s Journey

Steve Newcomer, Retired, Library, has visited every nation on earth.

- 7 Sunday Hours
Nine Library locations see the return of Sunday hours.
- 8 Club Valentines
Club Members express their forever love.
- 13 Honoring Frank
Frank Borden, Retired, LAFD, is honored for community response program.
- 17 Coloring Contest for Adults
It’s that time of year again for all grown-up Club Members to break out their crayons and glitter.
- 30 The City Parties!
Alive! continues its annual tradition of covering the City’s holiday parties.



City Department Coverage

The Club	
Be My Club Valentine.....	8-11
Blanket the City helps those in need.....	28
City Parties.....	30-35
LAFD	
Fire Marshal Awards given at ceremony.....	18
LARFPA	
Frank Borden, Retired, is honored for developing response system.....	13
Library	
Sunday hours restored to nine locations.....	7

Sections & Columns

<i>Alive!</i> In the Military.....	23
Adventures With Hal.....	14
<i>Alive!</i> Around the World.....	20-21
Be <i>Alive!</i>	46
Births.....	23
City Employees at Work.....	37
Classifieds.....	43
Club Store.....	47
Coloring Contest for Adults.....	17

Cooking.....	41
Deaths.....	23
History Comes <i>Alive!</i>	36
Letters.....	5
Me and My Pet.....	7
Peace of Mind.....	22
People We See.....	29
Picture Perfect.....	38
Question of the Month.....	5
Retirees Section.....	12-16
Retirements.....	15
Reviews: Movies and Theatre.....	39
Seen Around Town.....	40
Show Us Your Grandkids!.....	15
Smart Moves: Dearborn Insurance.....	6
Sports.....	42
Tell Us Their Story.....	23
Ticket and Gift Order Form.....	45
United Agencies at the Club.....	5

For Retirees
Best Years.....Pages 12-16

Advertiser’s Index

AMC Theatres.....	44	Rosebud Marketing.....	19
Blind Children’s Center.....	19	St. Baldrick’s.....	6
DWP Federal Credit Union.....	2	Sprint.....	40
Global Rings Jewelry.....	42	T-Mobile.....	28
Jonathan Butler Music.....	44	United Agencies.....	37
PetProject LA.....	19		

Club Featured Businesses

Jennio’s On-Site Taco Bars.....	7
iSlipTuff Cleaner.....	7
Mishgienterprises Jewelry & Clothing.....	7
MJP Clinic Acupuncture.....	7
Palmer Woodworks Design & Cabinetry.....	7
Rosebud Marketing.....	7

A Message From the CEO

The Journey Out
Is the Journey In

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

During normal process of creating *Alive!* each month, we sometimes have a few final questions for our cover story subject. In wanting to get things right, that’s par for the course and a piece of cake, right? Well, this month was different.

This time, for the first time, we sent a final email to our subject, and he was in another country! In China, for the next six months. And frankly, I wasn’t surprised. We should have expected him to be nowhere else but somewhere else. That’s the kind of guy **Steve Newcomer**, Retired, Library, is.

Steve wrote us a few months before Christmas with a photo or two of his travels. Here at *Alive!*, we get lots of awesome travel photos. But this was different. In his email, Steve said he had completed his 34-year task of visiting every country on earth.

What?
Our biggest challenge was figuring out how to handle this amazing story. We first thought to reprint one photo of his every month. But that would take more than 20 years! Then, we thought, well, maybe a few per month. That’s when our chief designer, **David Jamgotchian**, suggested that Steve deserved a cover story – not just because of his remarkable feat, but why he chose to do it. David was right – Steve Newcomer travels not to check boxes, but to learn and grow and understand. So it’s no great surprise that, even though he’s accomplished his goal of visiting every nation on earth, Steve hasn’t stopped exploring.

Over the years, we’ve had incredible submissions to our popular monthly feature, *Alive! Around the World*, everything from Mt. Everest and Antarctica, to under water vantages and witnessing the grandeur of the Grand Canyon. But we’ve never had one person go *everywhere*. We salute you, Steve,

for the adventure you have been on – the adventure around the world, and the adventure inside of yourself. Thanks for sharing.



Here’s Steve Newcomer (right), Library, Retired, and John Hawkins, Club CEO, at the Club Headquarters downtown.

Speaking of sharing, it’s February, and that means it’s time to bring you one of our most popular annual features – Club Valentines! Ever since December, when the paper requested submissions for the Valentine feature, and

since our Director of Marketing **Summy Lam** put the word out electronically, they started coming in by the bundle. I love it! When it comes down to it, the most important thing we have is each other. It’s awesome.

It’s all down hill from there, though ... and I mean that in the best way. Downhill skiing, of course! The only thing you’ll regret is not using one of the impressive Club discounts that **Mariana Guevara** at the Club Store has put together for Club Members. So pick up your discounted lift tickets today, and let’s hear some *swooshing*.

In other news, let me repeat this from last month: Please welcome our two new Club Counselors, **Isabel Marquez** and **Dailia Vielma**. I’m happy for you to meet them because I know they will continue the Club’s reputation for great customer service. Keep your eye out, and make sure to say hello.

I want to pass along our best Club congratulations to **Frank Borden**, whom we have featured many times here in *Alive!* — on the cover (twice, maybe the only person to have accomplished that feat), and nearly every year as part of the moving ceremony to honor the LAFD’s fallen firefighters. It’s not that we love Frank so much – we do, of course – but in his retirement he just keeps doing meaningful things (raising money for the Fallen Firefighters Memorial, and restoring the historic *Ralph J. Scott* fireboat). He’s testament to what a retirement should be all about. And we’re glad to include news of his latest honor. Great going, Frank. We’ll see you here in our pages again soon, I’m sure.

And speaking of the LAFD, more congratulations are due for those who have been honored with Fire Marshal Awards. See the story later in this issue.

I can’t sign off here without mentioning one of my favorite *Alive!* contests, and not just because it was my idea – the grown-up coloring contest. We love the coloring contest for kids that we run four times a year, but it’s incredible to see the true works of art we receive from the adults when they get in on the fun, too. So get out your crayons and glitter, and get going!

And finally, as we hit these winter months, please help us remember those who live on our streets, and need a hand. Consider contributing to Blanket the City. It’s an official part of our Club Angels charity program, so it’s a straightforward, legit and responsible way to help those who have so little. I thank you in advance.

—JOHN



jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

Alive! Behind the Scenes



Here’s Steve Newcomer (right), Library, Retired, being photographed at the Club Headquarters downtown by the Club’s Director of Marketing, Summy Lam (left).

Alive! Feature



IMPORTANT Telephone Numbers

The Club's Main Phone Number (800) 464-0452
The Club's FAX Number (213) 620-0398

City Bureau of Sanitation	(800) 773-2489
Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	
City Employees Benefit Office	(213) 978-1655
City Paymaster	(213) 978-7480
Commuter Services	(213) 978-1593
Deferred Compensation	(888) 457-9460
DWP Credit Union	(213) 580-1690 or (800) 300-9728
DWP Employees Association	(213) 367-3146
DWP Health Plan & Medicare	(800) 831-4778
DWP Information	(213) 367-4211
DWP Intake Magazine	(213) 367-1361
DWP Paymaster	(213) 367-1106
DWP Personnel	(213) 367-1934
DWP Retirement Plan Office	(213) 367-1712
Engineers and Architects Association	(213) 620-6920
Fire and Police Pension System	(213) 978-4545
LACERS	(800) 779-8328
LA Federal Credit Union	(213) 485-5000
LA Firemen's Credit Union	(323) 254-1700 or (800) 231-1626
LA Fire Department Museum	(323) 464-2727
LA Firemen's Relief Association	(213) 380-2900
LA Police Federal Credit Union	(800) 872-2843
LA Retired Fire and Police Association	(888) 288-5073
Local 721	(213) 482-6660
Local 3090	(213) 487-9887 ext. 340
Retired LA City Employees, Inc.	(800) 678-4145
Ticket Hotline	(888) 777-1744
Whistleblower/ Complaint Program	(800) 824-4825
Worker Compensation	(213) 473-3400



Cecilia Talbot, Claims Manager



Monica Zamudio, Claims Assistant

Club Members' Praise

The Club's claims staff "was courteous and caring, quick to respond and helpful. It was a difficult time losing our father. The Club's people made dealing with his insurance very easy, and that was greatly appreciated. It [The Fall of Freddie the Leaf] was simple yet touching. I shared it with our grandkids to discuss the death of their great grandfather."

– Club Member, November 2013

The Club's claims service is "great! Easy and good."

– Alcue Jones, November 2013

The Club's claims service is "very good, because you were always kind and patient. I needed a lot of help. The book [The Fall of Freddie the Leaf] painted a good look at real life."

– Armida Narvaez, October 2013

The Club's claims service is "excellent. It was a pleasure working with you; all went smoothly. All paperwork was submitted by us and the turned around was very quickly and professionally."

– Ronald Schaup, October 2013

Service from the heart... when you need it most.

You probably won't get to meet Cecilia Talbot and Monica Zamudio very often... until you really need them. That's when their 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.

Claims Paid

Your Club Insurance Dollars at Work:

Previous 12 Months

Life Insurance	\$2,681,380
Long-Term Disability	\$1,499,706
Long-Term Care	\$631,495
Cancer Insurance	\$300,000

Total claims paid to Club Members in the last 12 months: \$5,112,582



City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Celebrating the Lives of City Employees

Trust the Club's insurance and claims services when you need them the most. Contact an Insurance Counselor today: (800) 464-0452

It pays when you buy your insurance through the Club! Great rates on:

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

February 2014 • Volume 13 – No. 2

Alive!

Alive! is the official publication of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
TELEPHONE: (800) 464-0452
CONTACT US: alive@cityemployeesclub.com

Alive! (USPS P7960), Volume 13, No. 2 is published monthly, 12 times per year by the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 311 Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.
ALIVE! EDITORIAL OFFICES: 311 Spring Street, Suite 1300, Los Angeles CA, 90013 • (800) 464-0452
POSTAGE: Periodicals postage paid at Los Angeles, CA and at additional mailing offices.
SUBSCRIPTIONS: Annual subscription price for Alive! is included in the membership dues and is nondeductible.
POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to Alive!, City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 311 Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

Alive! Staff

John Hawkins and Robert Larios, Managing Editors

John Burnes, Editor

David Jamgotchian, JULA Associates, Design and Production

The Club's Board

Robyn L. Wilder, President
Fire and Police Pensions

Terry Carter
Commanding Officer of Property Division, LAPD

Andrew Virzi Jr.
Assistant Controller, DWP

Vas Singh
Revenue Management Division, Office of Finance

Insurance Services Board

David Muraoka
LAPD, Retired

Rose Hyland
Office of the Controller, Retired

Marilyn Holley
Public Works: Bureau of Sanitation, Retired

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

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.



John Hawkins
President & CEO



Brian Trent
Chief Financial Officer



Robert Larios
Vice President of Operations, "Sports Dude", "Chef Larios" and "Discount King"



Cecilia Talbot
Claims Manager



Monica Zamudio
Claims Assistant



Katie Hesseltine
Application Coordinator

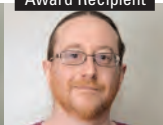


Jennifer Shackelford
Application Coordinator

Information Technology



Michael Anderson
Information Technology Manager



Alan Bound
Information Technology Programmer



Summy Lam
Director of Marketing

Accounting



Leigh Thompson
Controller



Trinh Pham
Senior Accountant

Claims



Cecilia Talbot
Claims Manager



Monica Zamudio
Claims Assistant



Katie Hesseltine
Application Coordinator



Jennifer Shackelford
Application Coordinator

Club Store



Mariana Guevara
Club Store Manager



Megan Debolt
Senior Customer Service Associate



Megan Evanich
Customer Service Associate



Alma Meza
Customer Service Associate

Call me! (800) 464-0452

Find your department below, and call me if you have an event you want covered in the Alive!, or if you have questions about insurance.

Enrollment Team



Sheldon Sklar
Member Services Counselor



Charlotte Swanberg
Member Services Counselor



Steven Lambert
Member Services Counselor



Shawn Huff
Member Services Counselor



Lucas Everett
Member Services Counselor



Dan Fichtler
Enrollment Coordinator

State of California & County of Los Angeles



Gedina Bergstrom
Club Member Services Counselor



Jackie Causillas
Club Member Services Counselor

Retirees



Tiffany Sy
Club Member Services Counselor, In-house

City Employees Retirement System



Arlene Herrero
Director of Product Development
Ext. 103



Angel Gomez
Director of Sales
Ext. 104



Noelle Kauffman
Club Member Services Counselor
Ext. 105

City of Los Angeles & DWP



Isabel Marquez
Club Member Services Counselor
Ext. 108

Building & Safety
Chief Legislative Analyst, Office of the City Administrative Officer
City Clerk
Community Development Dept
Community Redevelopment Agency
Contract Administration, Bureau of Controller, Office of the Cultural Affairs

Disability, Department on El Pueblo De Los Angeles
Engineering, Bureau of Fire
Fire & Police Pensions
General Services
Harbor
Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum
Neighborhood Empowerment
Personnel
Sanitation, Bureau of Street Lighting, Bureau of Transportation
Zoo



Dalila Vielma
Club Member Services Counselor
Ext. 137

Accounting Bureau of Administration
Aging
Animal Services
City Attorney
City Council
DWP

Employee Relations Board
Environmental Affairs
Finance
Housing Department
Information Technology Agency
Library
Los Angeles World Airport
Mayor
Planning
Police (LAPD)
Recreation & Parks
Status of Women

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Letters to the Editor

LETTER OF THE MONTH



Club Basketball Is Big Hoop-de-Do for Joe

It was a great experience playing with fellow City employees in the Club Basketball League. It was fun and a good time to unwind from the stresses of the day. I look forward to playing again soon. I am recruiting more of my coworkers to participate as well. Some wanted to form a cheering section – that would add electricity to the games. Nonetheless, thank you, Club, for making this happen.

– Joe Jones, LAPD

Great Club Deals Are Making 2014 Lots of Fun

I really like the new deals that the Club Store offers to us. I can tell you guys work hard to get us the best deals out there. I went to the Disney on Ice and a few others. It makes family time more special. We are looking forward to the *Book of Mormon* performance and the Harlem Globetrotters game. 2014 is going to be so much fun!

– Mae Kinderson, LAFD

A Compliment That Chef Larios Can Really Sink His Teeth Into

It is so much fun seeing the pictures of Club staff on the Club's Facebook page. It is fun seeing where they are and what they are doing. I also like seeing the cooking pictures from Chef Larios. Not only does he have fun recipes, have you seen the incredibly white teeth on him when he smiles? Is that Photoshopped?

– Tina Calloway, GSD

No, that's all Chef Larios. Thanks for writing. – Ed.

Office Depot Savings Keep Ringing Up With Club Discount

I could not believe the savings I received when visiting Office Depot over the holidays! The total at the cash register was \$210.35, and after I swiped my Club-linked credit card, the new total was \$168.23. This is an experience I will never forget. And of course I want to go through it again. I have even told my family and friends, some of whom work with the County and the City of Long Beach. I am sure they will be Club Members soon! Thanks, Club!

– Henry Jacobson, Transportation

Award for Dr. Krupp Well Deserved For Running World-Class Facility

Recently I had family from out of state staying with me here in L.A. One of the first things we did together was go to the City's Griffith Observatory. I just want to say how proud I was that I could show of such a world-class place. It's truly a world-class destination, and it reminded me why it's famous around the world. So, when I saw that the Director of the Observatory, Dr. Krupp, won an award (as printed in the January *Alive!*), I wasn't surprised at all. Thank you, Dr. Krupp, for making me proud to live in the City of Los Angeles.

– Thomas Baker, 23-year City Employee

Holiday Party Photos Show The Pride of City Employees

I have no idea how you do it, but *thank you* for publishing all the pictures of the Christmas and holiday parties. I look forward to this part of the paper every year. It's so nice to see fellow City employees celebrating where they work and to see so many having a good time. Keep up the fantastic work!

– JoAnn Miller, General Services

'Smart Move' Contains Good Information on Insurance Plans

Just wanted to let you know that I really like your column called "The Smart Move," especially last month's edition that talked about critical illness insurance. I like the way Mr. Miller explained what it is and why you need it. I'm looking forward to reading next month's. Thanks again.

– John Alvarez, DWP

Correction

On page 31 of our January issue, in a story about Terminal Island's holiday party, we incorrectly listed Mike Kutas' job title. He is a Construction Inspector for Public Works/Contract Administration. We regret the error.

FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS ANSWER THE...

Question OF THE MONTH

– as collected from around the City by your friendly Club Counselors

Where was your first date with your Valentine?



"The movies, to see *Home Alone*."

– Pete Gomez, Public Works/Street Services, 7 years of City service



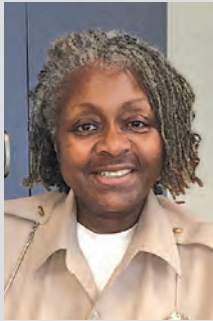
"Can't forget it – the Melting Pot."

– Allen Glumm, LAPD, 12 years of City service



"At Starbucks, where I was working. Nine years later, I'm proud to call him my husband."

– Diana Montano, PSR II, 7 years of City service



"A dinner cruise."

– Edwina Chrism, Transportation, 14 years of City service



"Surprising my date with flowers, chocolates and a Teddy bear, followed by a movie (*Blue Valentine*)."

– Daniel Hill, PSR II, 8 years of City service



"At Bruno's Restaurant with Rosey Reyes, the love of my life."

– Alfredo Reyes, Public Works, 15 years of City service



"Universal CityWalk – dinner and a movie."

– Don Jefferson, Planning, 12 years of City service



"The Pan African Film Festival, to view the *Wattstax* film."

– Gwen Reid, Animal Services, 10 years of City service



"A hike, a workout at the gym, and a healthy dinner at Tender Greens."

– Yolanda Arroyo, PSR II, 8 years of service



"Magic Mountain!"

– Salvador Torres, DWP, 23 years of City service

This month at the Club Store • 120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012



Get a **FREE** Quote on Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Contact Your United Agencies Reps
(888) 801-5522

Now on Thursdays! The United Agencies reps are appearing at the Club Store every other Thursday:

Feb. 6
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Patty Pulido

Feb. 13
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Rosa Calderon

Feb. 20
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Patty Pulido

Feb. 27
8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Rosa Calderon

Note: The Club Store will be closed Feb. 17 for Presidents' Day.



Patty Pulido
Personal Insurance Agent



Rosa Calderon
Personal Insurance Agent



Xavier Rodriguez
Personal Insurance Agent



THE SMART MOVE

BY PATRICK MILLER
Dearborn Insurance, The Club's Insurance Partner

Patrick Miller represents Dearborn Insurance, the Club's new partner for two areas—critical illness insurance and retirement income. Currently, the Club offers three Dearborn products: the Security Builder Plan, the Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan, and Paycheck Protection Plus. Ask your Club Counselor for details.

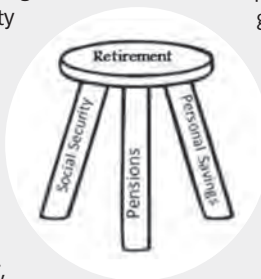
The 3 Legs of Retirement Savings

Is the "three-legged stool" method still a viable way to approach retirement planning? What is the three-legged stool approach? Retirement planners often describe the underpinnings for providing income after retirement as a three-legged stool. Typically, the first leg is Social Security. The second leg is a pension plan provided by the employer, and the third leg is savings managed by the worker. These savings may take the form of an employer-sponsored, tax-deferred plan (401k for private sector or 457B for public sector employees), an individual retirement account, or simply private savings. The three-legged stool should be viewed as a "best-practice" ideal; unfortunately relatively few retirees receive income from all three sources.

Since most municipal employees do not participate in Social Security, one leg of the stool is missing. Does that mean their retirement is in jeopardy? Not likely, but to continue to plan for and prepare for a generous income at retirement, one needs to put that missing leg back on the stool. Fortunately, most municipal employees have two strong legs, the pension and the availability of a quality deferred comp plan (the 457 plan).

The missing leg can be reattached by adding additional personal savings. To make it more convenient and systematic, it should be available through payroll deduction. The Club's partner,

Dearborn National, offers a great option with the additional benefit of self-completing elements to personal savings. The Security Builder plan offers a three-part product that provides a death benefit to pay up the savings portion for a surviving spouse, a disability benefit that continues to fund the personal savings if the employee becomes disabled and a guaranteed cash accumulation option that can be set up as a ROTH IRA for tax-free growth. The plan is available through payroll deduction for convenience and systematic contributions. You can contact Dearborn National at (888) 443-8829.



THIS
MONTH
AT THE



Griffith Observatory

February 11:
5:15 – 6:15 PM
FREE!

Sunset Walk

Enjoy a free hosted walk and talk, starting at the Observatory west terrace, continuing up to Berlin Forest, then returning. The walk is led by a Park Ranger from Rec and Parks and a museum guide from the Observatory.

Information:
www.griffithobservatory.org/pcalendar.html

**Support the
Griffith Observatory!**

Consider joining the Friends of the Observatory (FOTO)

(213) 473-0879

www.friendsoftheobservatory.com

City Owned. City Run. City Proud.

LAFD AND LAPD PROUDLY PRESENT

St. Baldrick's 2014

Conquer Childhood Cancers

MARCH 15

7:30AM TO 3:00PM

FIRE STATION 89

7063 LAUREL CANYON BLVD.

NORTH HOLLYWOOD, CA 91605

Join us as we shave heads to raise money for childhood cancer research!

SAVE A LIFE!

"We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give." -W. Churchill

FREE INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PANCAKES BREAKFAST!

BLOOD/BONE MARROW DRIVE, SILENT AUCTION/RAFFLE,

MAGICIANS, FACE PAINTERS, BALLOON ARTISTS, PRIZES,

FOOD TRUCKS, FIRE/POLICE APPARATUS, AND MUCH MORE!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT: WWW.STBALDRICKS.ORG/EVENTS/LAFDLAPD

Support these City Employee owned businesses!



CLUB FEATURED BUSINESSES

If you would like to feature your business, please contact the club at info@cityemployeesclub.com to start your ad placement right away! The *Alive!* newspaper is mailed to over 30,000 City and DWP employees and retirees each month throughout Los Angeles and beyond. The *Alive!* is also viewable digitally from all over the world.

Tell the world...
"I'm celebrating ME!"
Jewelry and Clothing Celebrating Women
\$1.50 of each signature series goes to the Foundation for Women Cancer
www.Mishgienterprises.com

YOUR AD HERE
Over 30,000 Members will view this Ad
Place your ad here for just - \$84/mo
Club Members get 30% OFF - \$58/mo
Price based on a 12 month contract

Rosebud Marketing Group
YOUR NAME AND LOGO PRINTED HERE!
We also do pens, watches, clocks, t-shirts, magnets, key tags, awards, baseball caps, golf items, mouse pads, and more
Would you like a pen with your company's name on it? How about a coffee mug or a mouse pad?
We also do Family Reunions!
CALL (323) 667-1985
www.RosebudMarketing.com
ROSEBUD MARKETING GROUP
4470 W. SUNSET BLVD., STE 101
LOS ANGELES, CA 90027
ROSEBUD@GETPROMOS.COM

Palmer Woodworks Design and Cabinetry
"We Make Really Cool Stuff!"
Contact us for a FREE initial consultation
818-645-3215 | Palmer4695@sbcglobal.net
www.palmerwoodworksdesigns.com

YOUR AD HERE
Over 30,000 Members will view this Ad
Place your ad here for just - \$84/mo
Club Members get 30% OFF - \$58/mo
Price based on a 12 month contract

Jennio's On-Site TACO BARS
From private parties and corporate events, to birthday bashes, and backyard gatherings.
562.884.6069
323.849.9915
JenniosOnSiteTacos@gmail.com
JenniosOnSiteTacoBars.com

YOUR AD HERE
Over 30,000 Members will view this Ad
Place your ad here for just - \$84/mo
Club Members get 30% OFF - \$58/mo
Price based on a 12 month contract

MJP Clinic
Acupuncture | Eastern Medicine
Pak, Myung S. LAc / Pak, Joo C. LAc
Call for an appointment **(818) 248-1444** **2050 Montrose Ave. Montrose, CA 91020**

iSLIP TUFF™
TABLET SCREEN CLEANER
Club Member Price **\$6.95**
✓ 100% Microfiber
✓ Attaches to tablets
Use Code **iSlipClub**
FREE SHIPPING **Cooper-Product.com**



An *Alive!* Photo Feature

Me + My Pet

Send in a photo of you and your favorite pet!



ABOVE: Here's Arlene Herrero, Club Director of Product Development, and Daniel Wang with Arlene's two dogs, Fina and Milo.



RIGHT: John Hawkins, Club CEO, and Isabella.

Library

Sunday Hours Return

9 library locations see Sunday hours restored.

Sunday operating hours were restored for the Central Library downtown and eight area branches Jan. 12. The event was marked by a ceremonial ribbon cutting on that day. The nine locations are once again open from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays, four years after they were closed due to budget cuts.

The locations with restored Sunday hours are:

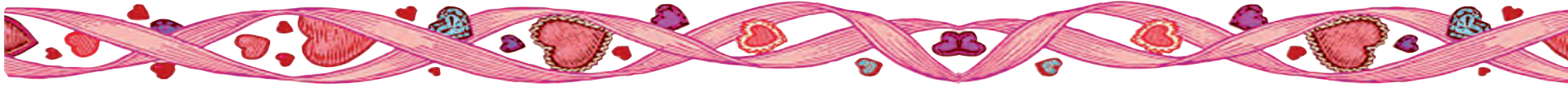
- Central Library, 630 W. Fifth St., downtown
- Arroyo Seco, 6145 N. Figueroa St., Los Angeles
- Goldwyn – Hollywood, 1623 N. Ivar Ave.
- Exposition Park, 3900 S. Western Ave., Los Angeles
- Mid-Valley, 16244 Nordhoff St., North Hills
- North Hollywood, 5211 Tujunga Ave.
- San Pedro, 931 S. Gaffey St.
- West Los Angeles, 11360 Santa Monica Blvd.
- West Valley, 19036 Vanowen St., Reseda



The Central Library downtown.

The restoration of Sunday library service is made possible by Measure L, a ballot initiative overwhelmingly approved by voters in 2011. Measure L gradually restores hours and services over four years at the city's 73 libraries by increasing their share of City funding without new taxes. The return of Sunday service comes one year ahead of the schedule promised to voters.

"Re-opening on Sundays has been a top priority because it's one of the most popular days for families to visit the library," said City Librarian John F. Szabo. "Having libraries open on Sundays makes it more convenient to visit the library and get homework help, join a computer classes, search for a job, use our health, citizenship and money management resources, and participate in our many other terrific programs."



CLUB *Valentines*

Alive! presents one of our most popular annual features – Club Valentines. Enjoy... and happy Valentine's Day!



"Jacqui, you make all my dreams come true, and I cannot wait to see what 2014 has in store for us! XOXO."
– Iver Dreben



"Happy Valentine's Day Hannah! Thank you for being my ray of sunshine! I loooove you sooo much, especially your morning hugs!"
– Love, Mom



"Happy Hearts Day to my forever love!"
– Stephanie Holloman, Harbor



"To my children, Sumira and Jabari, the Wonder Twins: Mommy loves you very much" You are my heart and soul. I wish you a fun Valentine's Day."
– Melisa Menefield, Airports



"It nearly took 20 years to find my first crush, but it has definitely been worth it! (We first met when we were 11.)"
– Thomas Wyatt, Public Works



"Happy Valentine's Day, my love. Every day we share is amazing. And the best is still to come."
– Franklyn Sugiyama, General Services



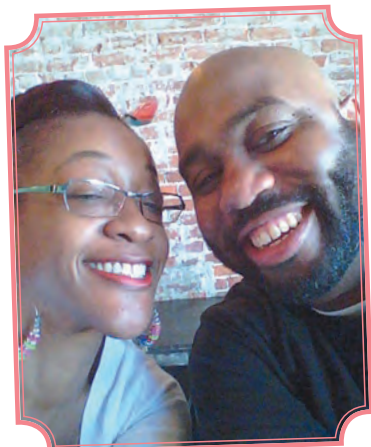
"Norli, Liz, forever."
– Norlito Medrano, Building and Safety



"Happy Valentine's Day! I couldn't imagine life without you both in it. Love you!"
– Kendra Madrid, Economic Development



"After 40 years of marriage, I am still in love with you. On the river Nile in Egypt, love you."
– Patty, for William Grauke



"Thank you for loving me the way you do... mentally, emotionally and physically. Happy Valentine's Day, baby."
– Kasondra Evans, Personnel, to Koshawn Holt, Public Works



"To my love, Ron, I was so lucky to have found you and to be able to spend New Year's Eve with you. I look forward to many more celebrations together!"
– Love forever, Jean



"Jun, I want to share everything with you because you're the love of my life. Happy Valentine's Day! I love you!"
– Herman Wong, DWP



"To my loving husband, Ruben, here's to many more Valentines together. 'And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.' 1 Cor 13:13. Love ya!"

– Carol Holguin, General Services



"To my love, Tricia: Happy Valentine's Day. I love you always and forever."

– Jose Ferrufino, Rec and Parks



"Happy first Valentine's Day to my brother, Ronnie, and his beautiful new wife, B.J. married in December. Love, your sister, Michel."

– Michel Claiborne-Thompson, Building and Safety



"James, you are my soul mate. I love you with all my heart!"

– Love, Meg



"Anyone can catch your eye, but it takes someone mighty special to catch your heart. Happy Valentine's Day, my dear!"

– Kimberly Tran, to Joseph Jiwatrakan



"To my best friend: Thank you for making me smile for over 10 years! Happy Valentine's Day! I love you!"

– Jamie



"To my beautiful wife, Sharren, on this Valentine's Day: Love you now and forever."

– Les Iden, General Services, Retired



"Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Mom"

– Adriana Courseault, Workers' Compensation



"Happy Valentine's Day, my love. Thank you for a wonderful life. Love you, Lils."

– Lillian Hernandez, LAUSD, Office of General Counsel



"I love you, Sylvester! Be my Valentine."

– Tanya Townsend



"Happy Valentine's Day, Icewater McNulty! Looking forward to the rest of our lives."

– John Burnes, *Alive!* editor



"Half of a lifetime together!"

– Al and Josie Williams



"I thank God every day for blessing me with you. Happy Valentine's Day. Love, your wife"

– Sandra Bautista



"To my best friend, Happy Valentine's Day."

– David Galdamez



"To my little Valentines Amanda and Sai, I love you."

– From Mr. Seahawk



"Hannah, you couldn't be any more perfect being that you are an exact replica of your Mother. I love you forever and ever"

- Daddy



"To the best dad in the whole world who will forever be my Valentine. I love you!"

- Noelle Kauffman

"To my wonderful parents: I love you, Mommy and Daddy. Happy Valentine's Day!"

- Love, Tricie



"Pa (Larry Lieswald), we wish you a very Happy Valentine's Day."

- Grandkids Brian and Aubrey, to Larry Lieswald, Public Works, Retired



"I'm spending this Valentine's Day with my two beautiful ladies, the loves of my life."

- Fred Lira, Building and Safety



"To my special Valentine (Angel), Grandma Noemi loves you lots."

- Noemi Garcia, LAPD



"Happy Valentine's Day, John! I'm so happy that I have you to share in life's adventures with! Without you I would be lost! I love you, forever."

- Kelley



"Boo, grow old along with me. The best is yet to be! Be my Valentine. I love you!"

- Cecy Gómez, Economic Development



"A hundred hearts would be too few, to carry all my love for you."

- Kimberly Andrews, Happy Valentines Day!!



"Happy Valentine's Day to my parents, Solomon and B'Elma; my husband, Zack; and our beautiful daughter, Kalina. I love you."

- Michel Claiborne-Thompson, Building and Safety



"Dear my two little girls, as your mother I will hold your hands for just a little while, but I will always hold your hearts forever. I love you to the sky and back. Happy Valentine's Day. Love, Mommy"

- Chermaine Fontenette, Public Works



"Happy Valentine's day, Dad! Thanks for always being my Valentine. I love you!"

- Love, Kelley



"Doug, thanks for being my companion on the road less traveled (and tolerating all those 'selfies')."

- Barbara

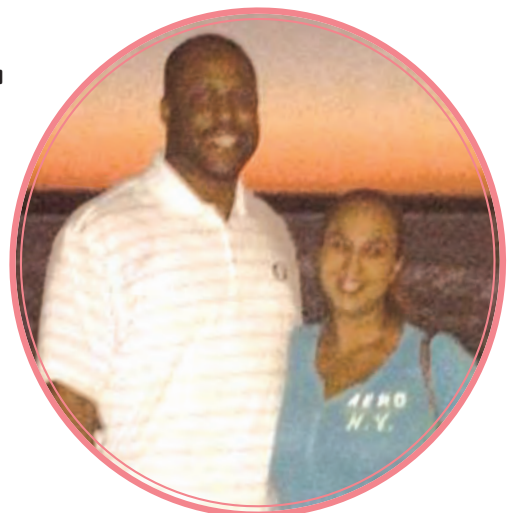


"Every day you get a little more beautiful. I can't wait till tomorrow! Thank you for being my trophy wife for 23 awesome years. I love you!"

- Eric Wilson, DWP

"To my husband, each day is brand new for us. I love you!"

- Karrie Spencer, DWP, to Nataka Spencer, LAPD





"Tony, you are everything to me. The past years with you have been the best, happiest years of my life, and I look forward to many, many more. I love you with all of my heart. Happy Valentine's Day, mi Papichulo! With all my heart, Angie"
 - Angie Melendrez,
 Rec and Parks

CLUB Valentines



"I wish my daughter, Vanessa, in Afghanistan a Happy Valentine's Day. We love you."
 - Linda
 Covarrubiaz,
 City Attorney's
 Office

"God has blessed me with two of the most wonderful daughters in the universe. Love, Mommie"
 - Melonie Harrell,
 Airports



"Nothing can top the bond between sisters. Thanks for always being there. Bingo!"
 - Barbara Nielsen,
 Public Works



"Happy Valentine's Day to the man who stole my heart! I love you John!"
 - Love, Kelley



"Happy Valentine's Day, John, Noah, Isaiah and Hannah. You four make my life perfect! I love you all sooo much!"
 - Love, Mom (Kelley)



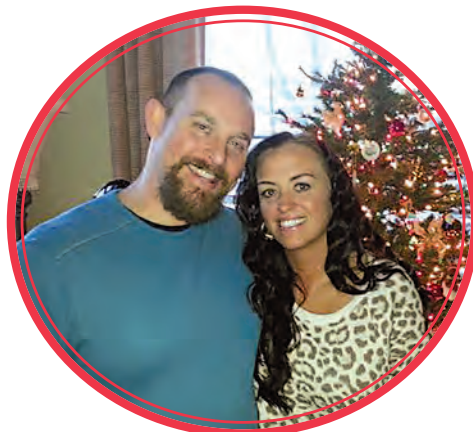
"Marcia, I love you with all my heart. Will you be my Valentine?"
 - B.J. Fulkerson, General Services



"To my beautiful wife, Sondra, celebrating our 34th Valentine's Day. Love, Brian"
 - Brian Hale



"Cara, thank you for giving me the privilege of calling you my girlfriend. You are truly amazing and show me what true love is every day. I promise to love you forever! Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Everett"
 - Everett Bennett,
 Public Works



"Tom, thank you for making every day feel like Valentine's Day. I love you."
 - Lisa Durand,
 Housing



"Happy Pre-Valentine's Day, Constance. Happy Post-Valentine's Day. From your not-so-secret admirer."
 - Rodney Bernaldo,
 "Isabella's papa"



"With all my love to my son and grandson, Courtland and Jason Moore. You are my very special Valentines!"
 - Sharon
 Moore,
 Rec and
 Parks



"Happy Valentine's Day, Mom and Dad! I love you both so much!"
 - Love, Kelley



"To my darling David, I love you and so happy you are my very special Valentine!"
 - Barbara
 Taylor,
 Airports



"To the best wife in the whole world!"
 - Ruben Garcia



For Retired Club Members

The Best Years

CITY RETIREE ASSOCIATIONS

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)



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

Change of Address?

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

Have News About Yourself?

Contact Mary Beetz, call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 711.

Retiree Upcoming Events

Reservation Lines:

RLACEI events: (800) 678-4145, ext. 701
DWP events: (626) 445-7376 (Dolores Foley)
LARFPA: (888) 288-5063

March 5: LARFPA general meeting, 10 a.m., Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park Dr. Los Angeles

April 10: RLACEI general meeting, 8 a.m., Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles

June 4: LARFPA general meeting 10 a.m. followed by annual barbecue (noon), Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park, Dr. Los Angeles

June TBD: RLACEI annual golf tournament, 7:30 a.m., Alhambra Municipal Golf Course, 630 S. Almanson St., Alhambra

Aug. 14: RLACEI annual picnic, Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park, Dr. Los Angeles

Sept. 3: LARFPA general meeting, 10 a.m., Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park, Dr. Los Angeles

Sept. 18: RLACEI annual corporation meeting and elections, 11:30 a.m., Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles

Dec. 3: LARFPA general meeting, 10 a.m., Grace E. Simons Lodge, 1025 Elysian Park, Dr. Los Angeles

Dec. 4: RLACEI holiday party, noon, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles

Dec. 7: LARFPA Christmas Party, 11 a.m., Sportsmen's Lodge, 12825 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks

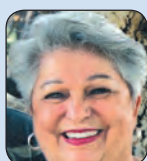
RLACEI Website

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

Contact LACERS

The Los Angeles City Employees Retirement System is at 202 W. First Street, Suite 500, (LA Times Building), Los Angeles, CA 90012. Hours: 8AM–5PM. Phone (213) 473-7200 or (800) 779-8328. Contact them to arrange direct deposit of your retirement checks, change your tax withholding or beneficiary, or for questions about your health plans. www.lacers.org

DWP Retirees Association



Dolores Foley, President
Phone: (626) 445-7376
E-mail: vincedolores@gmail.com
www.dwpretirees.org

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



Paul Enox, President
Phone: (323) 283-4441
Fax: (626) 285-1461
9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,
Temple City, CA 91780
www.larfpa.org

New Retirees Encouraged To Join RLACEI Association

RLACEI

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

By Ed Harding, RLACEI President

I, along with all the directors, wish you a healthy and happy 2014.

Director Phil Orland has been working with Greg Spiker and Gary Mattingly in arranging for financial planners to discuss, with our members, new ways to invest and transfer our investments. This is planned for our April 10 general meeting.

Our membership has been declining, and we need to recruit more members. I would have thought that every retiree would want to be a member to help

protect our pension. *You already know that the strength of our Association is in our membership.* Our board members will do all that is possible to stay on top of current issues concerning retirees' benefits.

While recruiting for new members, I found that many of the new retirees did not submit a deduction card for \$2 a month. Some were not sure if they belonged to our association because they signed so many papers when they retired.

Many asked me what our organization does with their \$2. I said that we have consultant Greg Spiker at City Hall every day keeping an eye on our pension.

We have two general meetings, a picnic and a holiday party, to which LACERS sends representatives to keep us up to date on the current status of our pension.

The Board of Directors meets monthly to discuss and take action on issues that may affect our pension, and the association distributes this information to our members in the *Alive!* newspaper that you as RLACEI members receive every month as well as through the Internet, at www.rlacei.com

Remember, the strength in our association, to protect our retiree benefits, is in our membership.

Judge in San Jose Rules Pensions May Not Be Cut



Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS Board Update By Michael R. Wilkinson

A San Jose trial court judge ruled that pensions for city workers may not be cut since their pension is a vested right, but also ruled that the city could make other changes to employee compensation that would not directly affect pension rights.

This is an interesting ruling in that it provides a way that San Jose could indirectly cut its pension costs by simply cutting the salaries of city workers and thus reduce its overall cost of labor while also scaling back its pension obligation, since the pension formula is based in part on the workers' pay.

The court case is one of the many California cases that are

under the microscope as politicians look at ways to cut costs. Other than a single opinion by a federal bankruptcy judge in Detroit, the prevailing opinion is that the governmental pension benefits of active employees and retirees cannot be reduced.

In San Jose's Measure B, the city sought to require all city workers, including police and firefighters, to contribute up to 16 percent more toward their pension. The unions challenged the matter and Superior Court Patricia Lucas ruled that San Jose went too far when it attempted to reduce the retirement benefits of active employees.

Both sides claimed victory here: The unions noting that the judge ruled that the pensions of active workers cannot be cut, while San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed was pleased that workers'

pay can be cut. It is interesting to note that as the mayor is bemoaning what he views as the crushing burden that public employee pensions impose on local taxpayers, a recent *Wall Street Journal* story titled "the Five Richest Cities in America" found San Jose number one with a median household income of more than \$90,000 per year for the metropolitan area.

Since the matter is likely to be appealed by both sides, this is only one of the early innings of a long battle. Time will tell whether the reasoning of this ruling will end up invalidating the key provisions of a state-wide initiative of "pension reform" that Reed intends to take to the voters this November to reduce pensions of current active employees. As I have noted in previous column, stay tuned.

Windfall Elimination Provision



Michael Karsch

Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy By Michael Karsch

Remember when this column, a couple of months ago, mentioned the Windfall Elimination Provision in Social Security law? The City Council of Los Angeles and the mayor agreed in December to endorse HR 1795 (Davis) and S 896 (Begich), which would repeal the WEP and the Government Pension Offset (GPO), hence that position is now part of the City's federal legislative program.

Public employees who are entitled to collect Social Security benefits as a spouse

are often penalized through the Government Pension Offset (GPO). The GPO can result in a retiree losing all spousal benefits that they should be entitled to, including access to lower Medicare rates and death benefits. Public employees who are entitled to collect Social Security benefits on their own behalf due to other employment are also penalized under the WEP in the current law. The two bills are pending in Congress but are not moving.

Illinois Pensions

The State of Illinois is still struggling through pension reform. The legislature and governor did narrowly agree on a reform package in December,

purportedly saving the state more than \$160 billion over the next 30 years. The *Chicago Tribune* wrote that "experts check to see if math, savings add up." So time will tell if it all really helps to straighten out that state's financial standing, particularly with the rating agencies, such as Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's. The unions have vowed to fight the reform, saying that it violates the state constitution ban on reduction of pension benefits. Two lawsuits have already been filed, one by retired teachers and one by state employees, but more are expected. The issue likely will end in the state Supreme Court.

LACERS Update



Mary Beetz

By Mary Beetz,
RLACEI Publicity
Chair

Annual Notice of Right to Elect or Revoke Federal Income Tax Withholding

This annual notice is provided to notify you of your right to change your Federal income tax withholding if you choose to make changes.

For year 2014, if the taxable portion of your total annual LACERS benefit payments is less than \$20,160, you are not required to elect Federal income tax withholding. You may have to consider the potential of a 0% – 3% Annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) in July 2014 if you are approaching this annual limit.

A. If you choose NOT to make changes:

- No action is required on your part.
- Your current withholding remains in effect.

B. If you DO choose to make changes or to revoke your current election:

- You must complete a new Form W-4P, and return it to LACERS. You may obtain Form W-4P on the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Internet website at www.irs.gov or by contacting LACERS at (800) 779-8328.

- LACERS will process your request by the first day of the month, that is, at least 30 days after we receive the form. Mail or Fax to:

MAIL:

Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System
202 W. First Street, Suite 500
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4401
Attn: Membership Processing Unit


FAX:

(213) 473-7202
Attn: Membership Processing Unit
■ Remember, your Federal income tax liability is based on your total income, not just your LACERS

retirement benefits. You may incur penalties from the Internal Revenue Service if your withholding and estimated tax payments are not sufficient. If you need assistance in estimating your tax, you should consult with the IRS or your tax advisor.

LACERS Well Program in Development for 2014

The LACERS Well campaign, *Find Your Balance*, has ended. In 2013, LACERS promoted balancing physical activity and nutrition through two wellness workshops, two online health and fitness programs, three health seminars, three health webinars, and 54 fitness classes. We are currently developing our LACERS Well program for 2014 and beyond. In the meantime, be sure to visit the LACERS Well web page at www.LACERS.org/lacerswell for information, resources, and tools to help you stay well. If you haven't already registered for LACERS Well, be sure to do so. Registered Members are eligible for program rewards and will receive monthly updates and wellness tips.



Life After Retirement

As a Reminder:

If you have news about yourself, family or other retirees that you would like to share with our readers, send it and we will publish it.

If you would like to contact a former City Employee that you met or worked with, send your contact information and we will publish it so they can contact you.

Note: Due to our confidentiality policy, we do not give out any information without authorization.

Mail information to:
Mary Beetz at
137 Westmont Drive,
Alhambra, CA, 91801
or Email
mbeetz4841@aol.com

This Year Could Bring Pressure on Pension Plans



Lee Kebler

By Lee Kebler,
LARFPA Director

This is going to be an interesting year with the continued attacks on pension systems, healthcare plans and the Affordable Care Act and how they will affect our plans. Currently there are 19 bills being worked on by our State legislators that could possibly affect our members. And who knows how many reformers are lurking out there to see how many more attacks they can make on our members pensions and healthcare benefits.

One of the most publicized attacks on pension reform has been San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed's Pension Reform Act of 2014. There have been several events that have reduced the possibility of this initia-

tive passing. The first event was when the State's Legislative Analyst's Office announced the initiative's language and found the language unfavorable for passage of the bill. Next, a Santa Clara County Judge's ruling rejected the key provision of the initiative, "to eliminate the vested right of employees." And finally a Washington, D.C., poll found that just 36 percent of the California voters would approve passage of the Pension Reform Act of 2014. This is good news. And proposals like this one are one of the reasons why we need all of our retirees as members of the association to help in the fight to preserve and protect our benefits. If you need an application, call our office.

Our office has been getting a number of calls asking what the COLA will be this year. As a reminder, the determination date of our

COLA is Feb. 28. The COLA will be announced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on March 18 and, whatever it may be, it becomes effective July 1.

By the time you read this article you should have received your IRS 1099 form. This is the form that reports the income that you received from the Fire and Police Pension Department. The law requires that the 1099 form be mailed by Jan. 31. If you didn't receive a 1099 or lost it you can get a duplicate from the Pension Department. Call the Accounting Section, (213) 978-4420 or toll-free (800) 787-4289, ext. 84420#.

I hope to see you at our general meeting at Grace E. Simons Lodge March 5 at 10 a.m. For more information, our office phone number is (888) 288-5073.

LARFPA



Frank Borden, Retired, Asst. Chief, LAFD, Club Member.

LARFPA

An Award for Frank

Frank Borden, head of the LAFD Historical Society, is honored for community response team.

On Jan. 14, the City Council honored Frank Borden, Retired, LAFD, president of the LAFD Historical Society and Club Member, for an important fire-fighting strategy he helped the Fire Department implement.

Borden was acknowledged for developing the Community Emergency Response Team program, which trained civilian volunteers to assist emergency service personnel during large-scale disasters.

Many Community Response Team mem-

bers and LAFD instructors attended for the special resolution ceremony, initiated by Councilmembers Mitch Englander and Tom LaBonge, Club Member. "I was so grateful and honored for this award and given a beautiful certificate to commemorate the occasion," Frank says. "It was very emotional for me when the entire City Council and people in attendance gave me a standing ovation. Many thanks to all for this special time in my life."

Congratulations, Frank, from the Club!

For Retired Club Members

The Best Years

RETIREMENT HELPLINE

Who to call? Call the Helpline and reach the officers of the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. If you move or change your address, contact Helen Salgado. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA and LAFCU. For information on problems, activities, meetings or membership. Each officer's extension is listed below.

City Employees Retirement System: (213) 473-7200

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

• Mary Beetz	Ext. 711
• Cliff Cannon	Ext. 715
• Hal Danowitz	Ext. 707
• Americo Garza	Ext. 710
• Edward Harding	Ext. 703
• Michael Karsch	Ext. 704
• Gary Mattingly	Ext. 702
• Phillip Orland	Ext. 709
• Neil Ricci	Ext. 714
• Helen Salgado (membership)	Ext. 713
• Ken Spiker	Ext. 705
• Tom Sternock	Ext. 708
• Michael Wilkinson	Ext. 712

Questions: Ext. 0
RSVP: Ext. 701

DWP Retirement Plan Office (213) 367-1722

RLACEI:

Officers

Edward Harding: President
Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President
Tom Sternock: Second Vice President
Hal Danowitz: Secretary/Treasurer

Committee Chairpersons

Mary Beetz: Publicity
Hal Danowitz: Finance
Americo Garza: Picnic, Holiday Party and Installation
Neil Ricci: Health and Nominating
Helen Salgado: Membership
Ken Spiker: Legal and Legislative
Tom Sternock: Audit and Golf

Directors

Mary Beetz
Cliff Cannon
Americo Garza
Michael Karsch
Gary Mattingly
Phillip Orland
Neil Ricci
Helen Salgado
Michael R. Wilkinson



The Best Years

For Retired Club Members

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz,
Secretary, RLACEI

Across the Pond, Starting From London

PART ONE

Hal and Co. begin a cruise that starts in London and ends in New York, with plenty of stops.



My wife, Evelyn, and I have been to the United Kingdom many times, but we have always stayed around the London area. We found a cruise on the *Caribbean Princess* that left from London (Southampton) around the British Isles and then crossed the pond to New York City.

The ports were Southampton, Guernsey (Saint Peter Port), Cork (Ireland), Dublin (Ireland), Liverpool (England), Glasgow (Scotland), Belfast (Northern Ireland), Edinburgh (Scotland), Invergordon (Scotland), Le Havre (France), Southampton (England), Bergen (Norway), Shetland Island (United Kingdom), Faroe Island (Denmark), Akureyri (Iceland), Isafjordur (Iceland), Reykjavik (Iceland), Nanortalik (Greenland), St John (Newfoundland, Canada), and New York City. It was two cruises back to back; the first part took 12 days, and part two took 16 days. We departed Aug. 14 and returned Sept. 15.

Our flight from LAX left at 7:35 p.m., and we arrived at London's Heathrow Airport at 2:05 p.m. the next day, a 10-and-a-half-hour flight. We flew business class, and we both slept about five hours. By flying business class, we were able to use the "fast pass" through immigration, which sped up the process. After collecting our luggage, we took the airport bus to the Heathrow Sheraton Hotel, where we stayed overnight. The shuttle cost £9 (\$15) for two one-way tickets. We had to wait about 20 minutes for the bus and got no help getting the bags on board; we should have taken a taxi. Luckily it was a short ride, and the hotel staff was helpful upon arrival.

The hotel was nice, and they charged "only" £15 per day for the Internet connection in the room, so we used the free Internet connection in the lobby. There was a Starbucks in the hotel that carried a number of the city mugs that Evelyn collects. We bought one here as it took the pressure off us when we went sightseeing.

We had dinner in the hotel at the sports bar. Prices are in British pounds, but they



The Blarney Castle.

We got to the ship about 1 p.m. With 3,000 people coming aboard, it was a madhouse. We had priority boarding, so it wasn't too bad for us. When we got to our cabin, all of our luggage was there. We decided to go to the library so that Evelyn could check out some books. While I was there (it is part of the Internet room), I signed us up for our computer minutes. We each received 500 free minutes, and I purchased 100 more for \$25 (each person). I hoped that would last us for 28 days.

Our friends from Las Vegas, Elaine and Lanny Marin, were on board for the first part of the cruise.

We waited for the lifeboat drill, which took place before we sailed. After the lifeboat, drill we found Lanny and Elaine and sat in the wine bar and caught up.

We purchased the "anytime" dining package and had dinner at 7 p.m. in the Coral dining room. We had to wait only about five minutes to get a table for four. The food and the service were pretty good. We sat and talked for so long that we missed the show.

Our first port was St. Peter Port, the capital of Guernsey, one of the Channel Islands. It was to be a short visit as the ship sailed again at 2 p.m. Technically they are not part of Great Britain but a possession of the royal family. This provides a convenient tax shelter. It is only 80 miles from the coast of Britain and serves as a holiday destination for both the English and French. While English is predominant, French is also spoken. During World War II, Guernsey, along with the nearby island of Jersey, were occupied by Germany. You can read *The Potato Peel Pie Society* if you're interested in a novel about Guernsey during the war.

During my pre-cruise research, I found a bus service that circled the island in 90 minutes and cost only £2. We took the ride and, while we did see some nice scenery and lots of World War II bunkers, we all thought it was a waste of time. The town itself has a nice walking district with many shops and restaurants. We walked around for about an hour and caught the tender back to the ship. We might have been better off taking a walking tour. There is a small World War II Occupation Museum that we missed.

Dress code that night was formal. I was interested to see how many passengers got

dressed up. The fact that we were visiting 10 ports in 12 days made it less likely that people would want to go through the process of getting all dressed up for a glass of champagne and a speech by the captain. With 3,000 passengers on board, there wasn't time even to shake his hand.

Evelyn and I attended the Cruise Critic meeting and met a nice couple from Dallas. They were very well traveled and were doing the full cruise to NYC.

Guess what was back – the plate of canapés. This has been going on for the last four Princess cruises. I must say the quality has gotten better.

The day before, I received a voice mail from the maitre d'hôtel, welcoming us on board. I didn't think anything about it. I figured they had an automated system that made the calls. Well, that day, I got a call from his assistant wanting to know when I was having dinner tonight. I told him 7 p.m., and he said to come to the Islands dining room and he would have a table for us. That never happened before. I was waiting to see what came next.

We met Lanny and Elaine in the Skywalker Lounge; they had the no-host party option for suite cabins every night. For those receptions, the ship provided the food (different each night) and the passengers bought their own drinks.

We went down to the Island dining room at 7 p.m. There was a long line of people waiting to get in. We bypassed the line and I told them that Mario (maitre d') made a 7 p.m. reservation for us. Next, Mario was there welcoming us, and he introduced us to Catalini (the head waiter) and said that, from now on, we should come straight into the dining room and Catalini would have a table for us. Then Catalini showed us to a four-person table by the window. Our waiter was Alicia from Jamaica. The service and food were excellent. I know it had just been two days, but it seemed Princess had really improved their food. It wasn't bad before, but they really improved the menu.

After dinner we saw Scott Harris, a Canadian comedian, who was very funny, though I fell asleep for part of the act.

We docked in Cork, Ireland, the next morning at 8 a.m. We booked a tour with Paddywagon Tours to go to Blarney Castle. The cost was about half of what the ship's tour would have cost. The ship docked in Cobh (Cove), the port for Cork. Cobh, then known as Queensland, was the final stop for the *Titanic* on its first and final voyage. From

that point on, Evelyn was calling this cruise the "the *Titanic* cruise". We left Cobh and drove directly to Blarney Castle. Our driver/tour guide was smart to get us there early because the line to kiss the Blarney Stone can be a two- to three-hour wait. We reached the castle in about an hour. Between the short wait and the 100 steps up a circular stairway, it took Evelyn and I only 25 minutes to climb the top, kiss the stone and return to the entrance. The climb up was pretty tight and the steps were very narrow, but we both made it. You have to lie on your back while an attendant guides you toward the stone. You don't get much time before they snatch you back. It reminded me of the movie *A Christmas Story*, where Ralph wanted to ask Santa for an air rifle and he couldn't get the words out before Santa's helpers dragged him away. They took our photos at the Blarney Stone, but they weren't very good. They used a different set of stairs going down, and we could stop and look at the various castle rooms.

We did a quick walk around the grounds and then found Lanny and Elaine. We still had some time before we had to return to the bus, so we found "The Mill," a shopping opportunity.

A word about the weather – we had some rain in Southampton, but Guernsey and Cork were nice. The temperature was in the high 60s, with periods of sunshine. It was very pleasant for sightseeing.

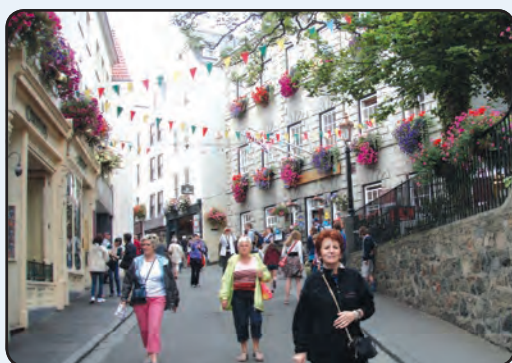
After the castle, we took a driving tour of Cork, the second largest city in Ireland after Dublin. Until 1921, Ireland was a part of Great Britain, and then

it gained its independence except for the six counties that make up Northern Ireland, of which Belfast is the capital. If the island of Ireland were one county, then Belfast would be the second largest city. After our drive though Cork, we stopped in Kinsale, a medieval port town. We had about two hours to eat lunch and walk around the town. We found an "organic" restaurant, with no beer, only wine. The fish chowder was pretty good, but tomorrow in Dublin it was to be fish and chips.

We drove back to Cobh with the intent of walking around the town before returning to the ship, but that weekend there was a large regatta and festival in town. The streets, which are very narrow, were packed with cars, and our bus couldn't get close to the ship. We were able to get out and walk down hill to the ship, while going through the town and the festival.

We all enjoyed the tour and by kissing the Blarney Stone we have seven years of the gift of gab.

More next month, from Dublin!



Evelyn on the walk street in St. Peter Port, Guernsey.

look like dollars. A cheeseburger was £9.50, which is about \$15. However, there is also a 20 percent VAT (tax) included in the price.

We slept until almost 8 a.m. It was not as restful as we would have liked, but I think we got back on schedule. We had our Starbucks coffee that next morning, and were now looking at our email and waiting for the car that would take us to Southampton.

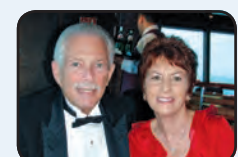
We then had our first problem. We got in the wrong car going to Southampton and were 20 minutes down the road before we figured it out. It was our fault entirely; I didn't ask, the driver didn't ask, and the bellman who told us the car was there didn't ask, either. No harm done, though, as our driver was waiting for us and the people whose car it was were also waiting when we got back to the hotel.



Evelyn kisses the Blarney Stone.



Hal ascends the stairs at the Blarney Castle.



Hal and Evelyn on the formal night aboard ship.



Our friends, Lanny and Elaine.

RETIREES:

Enjoy These Great
Member Benefits



City Employees
Club of
Los Angeles

Celebrating the Lives
of City Employees

Full Club Membership

Full Club Membership, including:

- **The cheapest tickets in the City – UP TO 60% OFF**
- Great Club apparel and gifts
- Group-rated insurance products for purchase
- Club-exclusive events
- E-mail notices about upcoming events and promotions
- Access to Club Website
- And much more!

For Retired Club Members

As a member of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, you'll enjoy these amazing benefits:

The *Alive!* Newspaper

Your own personal edition of *Alive!*, delivered to you each month. (Sent to all RLACEI members in good standing). Stay connected to RLACEI, and to all your Retired City friends, read about exciting City projects, take full advantage of free *Alive!* classifieds, and much more.

For more information,
contact the Club:

- talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- www.cityemployeesclub.com
- (800) 464-0452

Show Us Your
Grandkids!

Retirees: *Alive!* wants to show off your grandkids! So send in those photos!

Here's how:

1. **Make sure to have the permission from their parents.** If you send in a photo, *Alive!* assumes you have already received that permission.
2. Photos with you in them are better, but if not, that's okay, too.
3. Make sure you list the names of your grandkids.
4. Tell us, in a sentence or two, a little bit about them – their school, their accomplishments, what they love to do, how proud you are of them, etc.
5. Digital photos are best! Send them to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Send Prints To:
Grandkids
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(800) 464-0452

If you want the print photo returned, make sure you write your name and phone number on the back.



"My grandson, Steven C. Hernandez, serves with the 173rd Airborne at U.S. Garrison Bacaria in Germany."

– Vincent Hernandez Sr., Retired, DWP

To accompany the photo of his grandson, Vincent sent along the Soldier's Creed, produced by the U.S. Army and first used in November 2003. We reprint it here.

I am an American Soldier.
I am a Warrior and a member of a team.
I serve the people of the United States, and live the Army Values.
I will always place the mission first.
I will never accept defeat.
I will never quit.
I will never leave a fallen comrade.
I am disciplined, physically and mentally tough, trained and proficient in my warrior tasks and drills.
I always maintain my arms, my equipment and myself.
I am an expert and I am a professional.
I stand ready to deploy, engage and destroy the enemies of the United States of America in close combat.
I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.
I am an American Soldier.

"Here are a couple photos of my grandkids.
"All of them love to do what we call 'the Gran-Ma Dance' with me. That's when we just all get together in the middle of the floor, music or not, and just dance and have fun together, dancing around and shaking heads up and down as well as our moneymakers!
"I am so proud of them and I love them a whole bunch! They hoop and holler and drive me batty sometimes, but I wouldn't change a thing."
– Yvette L. Polar, Traffic Officer II, Transportation

From left: "Sean McClure loves animals and wants to grow up to be a veterinarian or a zookeeper; he is also a very talented artist, and most of his drawings are hanging up in his old preschool. He is well versed on the animal kingdom and can tell you all about different species and their habitats.
"Gianna Young is sweet, quiet and reserved; she is also very loving toward her family members, and she adores all things that are chocolate. She absolutely loves music and musical instruments.
"Alannah McClure loves to dance and sing with a kiddy make-believe microphone. She is very vocal and has an astounding vocabulary. She's a little bossy, too!"



Retirements

Here's a listing of all those who retired from the City this month. To all we say, welcome to the Best Years!

NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT	YEARS
Beabraut, Ivan	Custodian	General Services	12	Maruyama, Vikki L.	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	14
Bell, Denise Renee	Marketing Rep III	Convention Center	38	Mischlich, Michael	Sr. Building Inspector	Building and Safety	23
Boyd, Clarence R.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	29	Paris, Andrea D.	Sr. Clerk Typist	Airports	30
Brent, Sherry L.	Librarian III	Library	14	Pierson, Michael	Wastewater Collection Worker II	Public Works	22
Brett, Claudia	Sr. Marketing Rep II	Convention Center	32	Ragland, Kenneth	Marine Environmental Supv.	Harbor	17
Chin, David A.	Off. Engr. Tech III	Public Works	30	Sherman, Donald J.	Traffic Officer II	Transportation	27
Chow, Sharon H.	Crime Intel. Analyst	LAPD	28	Sloss, Joyce Osborne	Chief Management Analyst	Airports	26
Correa, Jose J.	Building Repairer II	LAPD	6	Stosel, Stanley	Asst. St. Lighting Electrician	Public Works	5
Courtney, Steven G.	Custodian	General Services	24	Tan, Louisa Ira	Accounting Clerk II	General Services	11
Custodio, Ernesto	Wastewater Collection Worker II	Public Works	10	Tatum, Elexzine	Clerk Typist	Personnel	37
Duckworth, Gracie M.	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	26	Warlick, Herschell	Financial Manager II	Harbor	12
Gonzalez, Enrique	Sr. Detention Officer	LAPD	33	Webman, Juana V.	Deputy City Attorney IV	City Attorney	12

The
BestYears

For Retired Club Members

RETIREES AROUND THE WORLD



1

Asia/Pacific

Manila American Cemetery and Memorial, Philippines.

Guadalcanal American Memorial, Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Nagasaki Peace Memorial, Japan.

Corregidor Malinta Tunnel, Philippines.

Take
the Club
with you,
wherever
you go!

Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your recent copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a **high resolution** photo with you **holding a copy**, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



2

Oceania

At the Port of Auckland, New Zealand.

In Fiji with native dancers.

On the boat.

In Auckland, New Zealand, before going on a tour.

In New Zealand at a kiwi plantation.

In Wellington, New Zealand, at the car museum.

At Victoria Peak, Wellington, New Zealand.

Pablo Ninofranco Jr., Retired, Harbor, and his wife, Josie, took a 14-day Australian cruise in November.

WIN
\$50
Target
Gift Certificate

*Deadline
For submission:*
March 10, 2014

It's a Coloring Contest!



GROWN-UPS, GET YOUR CRAYONS OUT!

It's time for another
Grown-up Coloring Contest!
Why let your kids have all the fun?
The prize: a \$50 Target gift card.
So get coloring, and have fun!

for Adults!

PLEASE PROVIDE

Club Membership Number:

PLEASE COMPLETE:

Name: _____

Job title and department with the City: _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Send Entries to:

Club Grown-Up Coloring Contest
City Employees Club of Los Angeles
120 West 2nd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Rules of the Club's Adult Coloring Contest:

- 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.)
- All responses must be completed by the person indicated: no ringers (including your children!)
- Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
- The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.





From left: Capt. Paul Ponce, Fourth District Deputy of Arts and Culture Isaac Burks, Secretary Tanzi Cole, Fire Commissioner Jimmy Hara M.D, and Inspector Vincent Owens.



Assistant Chief John Vidovich.

LAFD

Story by Tanzi Cole, Secretary, LAFD; Photos by Gedina Bergstrom, Club Counselor

Fire Marshal Awards

LAFD hosts 9th annual event honoring excellence in fire inspection.



Fire Marshal Mark Stormes and Inspector Vincent Owens.



Fire Marshal Mark Stormes and Inspector Lloyd Fukuda, 37 years of City service.



Fire Marshal Mark Stormes and Capt. Paul Ponce.

The Fire Dept. held its ninth annual Fire Marshal Recognition of Excellence Awards ceremony Oct. 16. The event was held at City Hall.

This year's honorees were Inspector Vincent Owens, Capt. Paul Ponce, and Secretary Tanzi Cole.

The LAFD historically has recognized the accomplishments of field personnel and civilian staff through public award ceremonies; however, there had not been an award ceremony to recognize the dedicated and positive accomplishments of Fire Inspectors. In 2005, the void was filled when Fire Marshal Jimmy H. Hill and Assistant Fire Marshal Douglas L. Barry developed the Inspector Recognition Ceremony.



Fire Marshal Mark Stormes and Sr. Clerk Typist Renita Young.



Fire Marshal Mark Stormes and Fire Marshal Secretary Tanzi Cole.

In 2006, the program was expanded to recognize a FPB Fire Captain making a positive impact on the Bureau, beyond the scope of duty.

In 2007, the department again expanded the program to recognize a FPB civilian member who was contributing to the progress and positive development of the Fire Prevention Bureau.

Previous honorees were:

- 2005: Inspectors Jesse Franco, Cliff Anderson, Monte Buckner and Sandra Smith
- 2006: Inspectors Neil Reitzell, Jon Bullock, Mark Chase, Rodolfo Martinez, and Captain Fred Fowlks
- 2007: Inspectors Michael Ing, Terrence O'Connell, William Parker, Capt. Scott Miller, and Executive Assistant II Martha Lucero

- 2008: Inspector Robert Jackson, Capt. Joe Szabados, and FPEA IV Ghassem Nikkhoo
- 2009: Inspector Frank Cordova, Capt. Matthew Gatewood, and Clerk Typist Katie Rosas
- 2010: Inspector Patrick Killian, Capt. Robert Knight, and Clerk Typist Jeannie Porter
- 2011: Inspector Steven Hofbauer, Capt. Anthony Valdez, and FPEA IV Hani G. Malki
- 2012: Inspector Joseph Johnson, Capt. d'Lisa Davies, and Clerk Typist Elva Davila
- 2013: Inspector Vincent Owens, Capt. Paul Ponce, Secretary Tanzi Cole

The Club congratulates this year's winners!



Awards ceremony attendees inside the Fire Commission Room, City Hall East.



Mr. LA., Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Club Member.



From left: Tanzi Cole, Secretary and 2013 Fire Marshal Award Recipient, her niece Renika, her daughters Ari and White, her aunt Marilyn, and her nephew Marlon.

Healing Children

Bienvenidos is a compassionate community of care dedicated to healing children and their families.

Strengthening Families

Our vision is of a society in which every family can provide a loving, healthy and secure home where children can grow and thrive.

Transforming Communities

By empowering those we serve to lift themselves up and change their lives, Bienvenidos is helping build healthier families, brighter futures and more vibrant communities.



■ This ad is possible thanks to the generosity of Terrance Yeager ■

www.bienvenidos.org



Rest Insured

By **JEFF GELINEAU**

Vice President of United Agencies, The Club's Auto and Home Insurance Partner

Gap Insurance for New Cars

Just when you thought you were covered for everything you needed with your insurance — along comes gap insurance.

If you are getting a new car, or recently did, you may want to read about this important coverage.

Though it may sound trivial, gap insurance is a must for people who lease their cars. And if you made a small down payment when buying a car, a gap policy can be lifesaver as well. But first, let's look at why it exists.

As the name implies, gap insurance covers what traditional auto insurance doesn't. In other words, it closes the gap between what your insurance company pays if your car is stolen or totaled and what you owe the finance company.

Let's take a test case: Say you bought your car two months ago for \$25,000. You begin making payments at about \$500 a month based on a 6 percent interest rate. Then, disaster strikes: A tree falls on your car and flattens it.

You call the insurance company and it looks into its crystal ball and decides at the time of the accident your car was worth only \$20,000. The car may only be a couple of months old, but it has already lost 20 percent of its value. Unfortunately, the finance company still wants the full amount you owe them. With interest, tax and license fees, they figure that to be \$27,000.

Yikes! There's a gap of \$7,000 between the \$20,000 that the insurance company is willing to pay you and the \$27,000 the finance company is demanding. Most folks are going to be eating Spam dinners for the next two years, but if you have gap insurance, you can safely order steak.

Apply the same scenario to someone who bought their car. If they left the dealer lot without putting several thousand dollars down, they likely owe more than the insurance company will pay if the vehicle gets totaled or stolen in the first few years. Once again, gap coverage can save the day.

And that's why gap insurance is

a must for many drivers. In fact, gap insurance is usually mandated by lease contracts or included within them. If a gap policy is required but not included in your contract, you should shop around for this coverage (insurance companies sell it). If gap coverage is included in the lease, check to see how much is offered and how much you're going to be paying for it. (In some cases, lease contracts may include what is known as a gap waiver, which protects you from gap charges in the event that the leased vehicle is declared a total loss — eliminating the need for a gap policy.)

Is gap insurance necessary for people who finance their cars? Well, it depends on your coverage. If your regular insurance policy is written to pay off the fully financed amount, then you don't need gap insurance.

A few things to keep in mind when buying gap insurance:

- Although most people purchase it when a lease is initiated, some insurance companies will sell you a gap policy anytime during the lease term.
- You must be in compliance with all terms of the lease.
- Your gap insurance policy may not be honored if you don't have collision and comprehensive insurance coverage. Further, lease contracts generally require that you carry collision and comprehensive at all times.

If your car is totaled, or stolen, carefully follow all requirements made by your insurance company. For example, some companies require you to continue making loan payments on your totaled car until the money from the gap insurance is paid out.

So when initiating a car loan or lease, always remember to ask your insurance agent about gap insurance. If you have an accident, you'll be glad you planned ahead.

Feel free to contact me or any of our Agents if you have any questions about gap insurance, or would like a quote on any of your insurance policies today!

Be safe and have fun!

About United Agencies

United Agencies is the Club's Partner in helping members with their home and car insurance, and related products. Feel free to call us with any questions about rental cars, auto insurance, or any other topic. We specialize in creating personal relationships with our customers, and serving their needs in a prompt, efficient and friendly manner.

Call our office today at (888) 801-5522.

Check out the City Employees Club page on the United Agencies Website: www.ua-insurance.com/city-club

Have a question?

Is there something about insurance that you've always wanted to know, but were too ashamed to ask? Maybe something that you've just always been curious about? Feel free to send me an email at jeffg@ua-insurance.com, and I will try to answer your question in one of our monthly columns.

Your Downtown LA Pet Supply Store!

WOW! petproject

545 S. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90013

NOW HAS ONLINE ORDERING, & CITY EMPLOYEES CLUB MEMBERS GET 10% OFF!

GO TO
petprojectLA.com

Enter Promo Code: **cityclub**

Order by 2 p.m. Thursday,
pick up at City Employees
Club Store from 10:30
to 4:30 Friday!

Questions?
Call 213-688-7752



**Would you like a pen with
your company's name on
it? How about a coffee
mug or a mouse pad?**

[We also do Family Reunions]

Call 323-667-1985

"If you can imagine it, we can create it."

**ROSEBUD
Marketing Group**

4470 W. Sunset Blvd, Suite 101
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323-667-1985
FAX 888-891-5743
rosebud@getpromos.com

www.RosebudMarketing.com

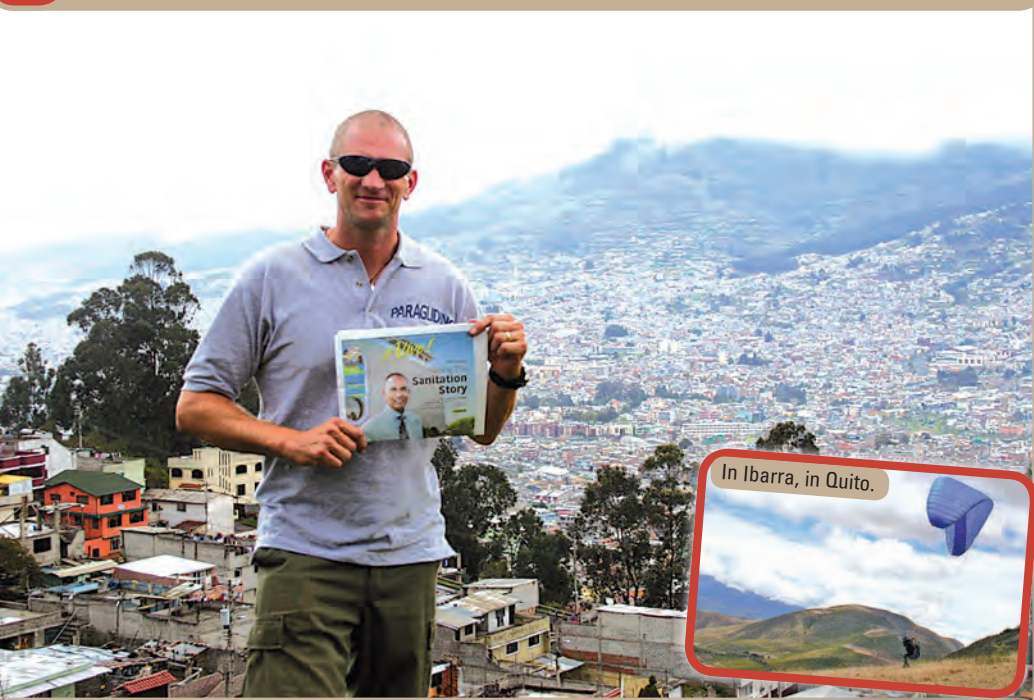


Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



1

Ecuador



"Here are a few photos from my December trip to Ecuador. I took an issue of *Alive!* flying with me on my paraglider, and it went up to almost 10,000 feet. I carried it with me inside my harness but unfortunately was not able to get a photo of me holding it while flying my glider, as I need both hands on the controls for the most part!

"I visited several different areas there for paragliding, including the mountain region of the Andes, the capital city of Quito, and the coast."

– Art Kurkowski, Harbor/Port Police

2

California



"What a pleasant time my wife and I had at Rec and Parks' Victorian Christmas at the Banning Museum in Wilmington. We toured the beautifully decorated Banning Mansion, listened to a local high school choir sing seasonal favorites, and watched stately Victorian dances. Here I am with Olga Abregu (left) and Randy Chong (right) in Victorian period costumes."

– David Jamgotchian, JILA Associates (the designers of *Alive!*)

3

World Traveler



"This is high above Hong Kong on Victoria Peak overlooking Kowloon and the harbor."

– Baron "Mr. B." Greenhouse, World Traveler, DWP



Baron Greenhouse also visited Hawaii...



... and Spain.



4

British Columbia

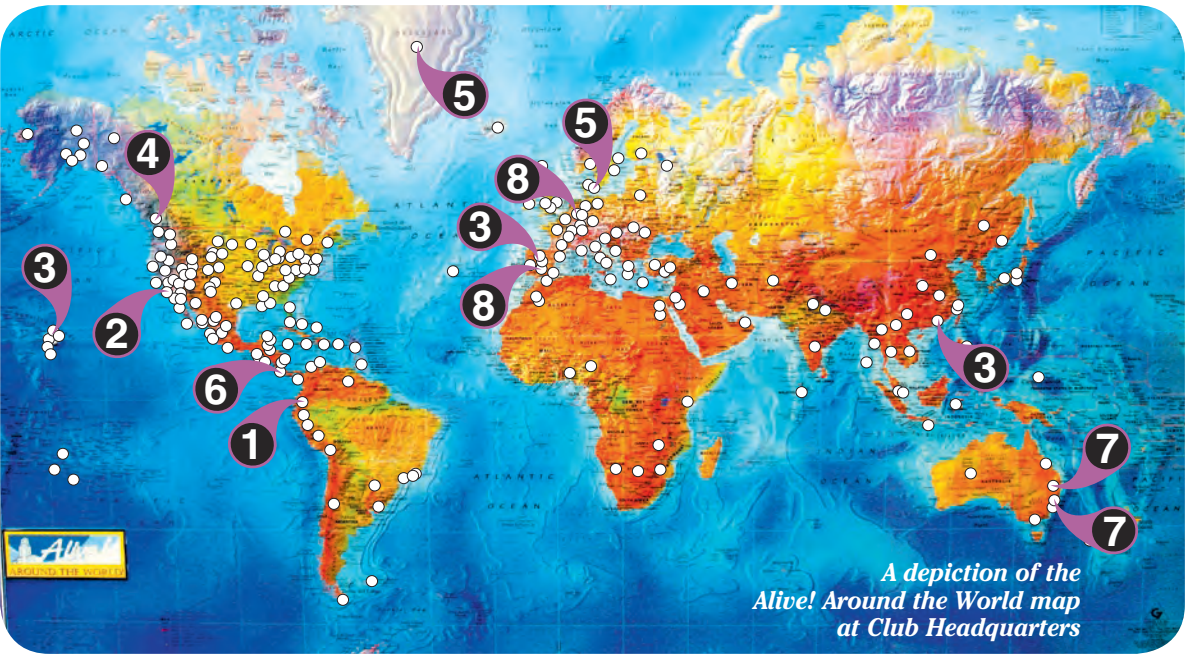


Here are **Sepou Ohanian, Airports**, and his wife, Karolin, in Vancouver, British Columbia.



Take the Club with you, wherever you go!

Club members are a well-traveled bunch. Bring your recent copy of *Alive!* with you. Snap a **high resolution** photo with you **holding a copy**, send it in, and we'll publish it. Send to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



A depiction of the *Alive!* Around the World map at Club Headquarters

5

Northern Hemisphere



Here are some images from Dr. **Ed Krupp, Director, Griffith Observatory**, from an expedition he took with the Friends Of The Observatory last October. "We went to Greenland to view the aurora borealis, and we were successful, with three nights of clear weather and auroral displays."



"Kellyville, Greenland, near Kangerlussuaq, advertises itself as an 'incoherent' community. The radio antenna of the Sondrestrom Incoherent Scatter Radar Facility probes the ionosphere in an attempt to understand better the mechanisms involved in the northern lights."



"Most of Greenland is covered with ice, and it's about 11,000 feet deep. It's uninhabitable, but you can reach it from the coast, which is clear of the ice cap and is where people live. Ice Cap Point 660 is a sea of frozen waves."



"Icebergs break off from Greenland's Sermeq Kujalleq glacier, the most productive glacier in the northern hemisphere, and migrate down the Ilulissat icefjord, a half-frozen tongue of the sea, enter Disko Bay, and eventually make their way to open ocean. The iceberg that doomed the *Titanic* originated from here."



"Many of the icebergs in Disco Bay are small mountains."



"The Rundetårn, in Copenhagen, is a 17th-century observatory tower that was used by Danish astronomers, including Ole Rømer, who attempted to measure the speed of light. The green building here, at the summit of the tower, houses a telescope used today by amateur astronomers."

6

Panama



Here's **Bob Kikuchi, Harbor**, going through the Panama Canal.

7

Australia

Robbie Horvath, Public Works/Hyperion, recently returned from a trip to Australia.

"Australia was a dream of mine for so long. Not anymore! I've finally visited it and found the land Down Under extremely enchanting. I'd like to share some of my favorite moments with you all."



Robbie with Gilbert, an Aboriginal friend at the Boomerang Festival.



Robbie with the driver of the mini-bus.



Robbie at the Sydney Opera House.

"The three-day Boomerang Festival near Byron Bay was my real favorite. Gilbert was teaching me how to throw a boomerang. Also he had served as the Keeper of the Fire at the festival.

"I also visited a quintessential hippie town called Nimbin. Here, time stands still since the 1960s. It's a well-hidden gem, one of a kind. My favorite sticker from the hippie bus says: 'Once you are over the hill, you pick up speed.'

"The last picture is the amazing Sydney Opera House, which celebrated its 40th birthday this year."

8

Western Europe



"The Alhambra (in Granada, Spain) was the last and greatest Moorish palace in the 13th and 14th centuries."

Here's **Alfredo Fajardo, General Services**, in Western Europe.



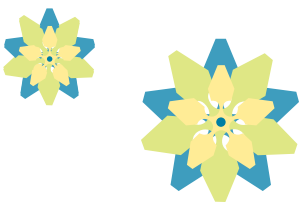
"In Düsseldorf, Germany, where we had an eight-hour-stopover on our way home."



"The Plaza de España square, buildings and park are the remains of the 1929 international fair in Seville."



Life's Important Moments



Share your moments!

Did you get married? Have a baby? Get a promotion? We want to hear from you. Share your news with the world! Send all notices and high resolution photos with the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or send paper notices and print photos to: Alive!, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Welcome New Members!

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

New Members

Airports

Miriam Barrera
Jerry Bateman
Robin Blueitt
Misty Brown
Alvin Co
Jesus Cortez
Henry Lewis
Kurt Mantwell
Oweeda Newton
Minniqueka Ross
Keawe Tolson

Animal Services

Elaine Barrera
Barbie Calva
Sylvia Flores
Mona Obregon

Building and Safety

Teena Ennabi

City Attorney

Silvia Landeros

City Clerk

Sung Jin
Ricky Ng

CDD

Andre Baydaline
Sarai Molina

General Services

Jose Ortiz

Daniel Ramirez

Richard Reyes

Harbor

Celia Ixta-Edgar
Miguel Pasos
Manuel Romero

Housing

Adrian Guerra
Lilia Hansbrough
LaKiya Hays
Barbara Piggee

LACERS

Thomas Moutes

Library

Concepcion Mesinas

Planning Department

James Schwedler

LAPD

Miguel Alarcon
Manuel Alcazar
Regenia Andrews
Michelle Ayerdis
Gary Brown
Larry Covington
Kelli Crawford
Roslyn Edmondson
Tomas Escalera
Rafael Espinoza
Marice Estrada

Deborah Fentroy

Heather Herrera

Robert Hillard

Jessie Hinchman

Ryan Jackson

Oscar Licea

James Lin

Sophia Liu

Hector Madrigal

Darryl Martin

Joshua McDonald

Maria Nelson

Mariana Patin

Jeffery Phillips

Adriana Ramirez

Douglas Ray Jr.

Marco Rodriguez

Kristen Rosauer

Francisco Rubio Jr.

Lisa Scutaro

Sofie Toledo

Francisco Valdez

Quincy Walunga

Julia Wilkinson

Patrick Wu

PUBLIC WORKS

PW-Engineering

Sahar Mehzad

PW-Sanitation

Frank Alvarez

Adrian Banuelos

Heriberto Diaz

James Glass

Phillip Navarro

Felipe Nevarez Jr.

Raudel Ramirez

Boris Ramos

Chaunte Searight

PW-Street Services

Robert Carter

Cedric Clarke

Kiam Tann Sr.

Rec and Parks

Sergio Lambarr

LaTanya Taylor

Transportation

Rashanda Crisp

Adam Greek

Otamez Haddock

Rochelle Hill Paul

Jon Palos

Tina Robinson

Estella Villa

Sharon White

Engdu Workneh

Retired

Lisa Cook

Victor Ladd

John Williams

DWP

Samuel Davis Jr.

Bert Guzzetti

Paul Luna

Other

Vernal Beal
Danny Bickel
Roberta Boardman
Evi Boncato
Bryan Casas
David Colligan
Francis Cordova
Filimon DeLaTorre
Brady Dunn
John Herron
Arthur Holt
Indra Jones
Michael Kaiserski
Jonathan Leung
Aaron Lopez
Maria Luna
Dario Miralles
Stephen Natividad
Armando Pastran
Robert Pfefferle
Eduardo Preciado
Mayqui Rivera
Thomas Russell
Elizabeth Scheider
Josie Shawan
Douglas Stevenson
Greg Sysak

Graduations Special Achievements Weddings

Have a photo of a recent event? Send a high resolution photo and the appropriate information to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Peace of Mind

by Tiffany Sy
The Club's Peace of Mind Expert



Protect Your Family With Term Life Insurance

Contact me at
info@cityemployeesclub.com

The life insurance plan that started it all – term life insurance – continues to carry the torch of tradition today, giving an annual refund check back to Club Members in most years. If you have group term life insurance with the Club, you should have received your check last December. The way it works is simple: The advantage of group rating offers our members competitive rates. Premiums are pooled during the fiscal year and what remains after paying off death claims and administrative expenses is given back to our members in the form of a check.

The amount of each member's check corresponds to individual premium contributions. If you have a spouse or domestic partner, he/she is also eligible for our group term life insurance, and premiums for their plan also count toward your annual refund check! Retirees and spouses, we've added you to the eligible list as well. As we enter the most romantic month of our calendar, our loved ones include our families. Take care of your family by insuring their peace of mind.

Do you have enough coverage? Who depends on your income? How much will they need to sustain their lifestyle? Has there been a recent addition or change in your family? Typically, the younger you are, the more life insurance you will need. Your need should taper down to a burial benefit upon retirement. If you are actively working and planning an upcoming retirement, keep in mind your group term life insurance with the Club stays with you! The convenience of automatic payroll deductions also continues with pension

deductions. Simply contact our office at your earliest convenience so that we may process your retirement requests. If you would like assistance in assessing the coverage you need to provide security for your family and assets, contact me or your member services counselor and we would be more than delighted to help you find a budget to meet your needs.





Births

Have a photo of a recent newborn?
Send photo and the appropriate information to
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Sofia Carmen Lajas, born Sept. 3 to
**Sonia Lajas, Principal Clerk Utility,
Haynes/Harbor Generating Stations, DWP.**
“Mom and dad are completely in love with her!”

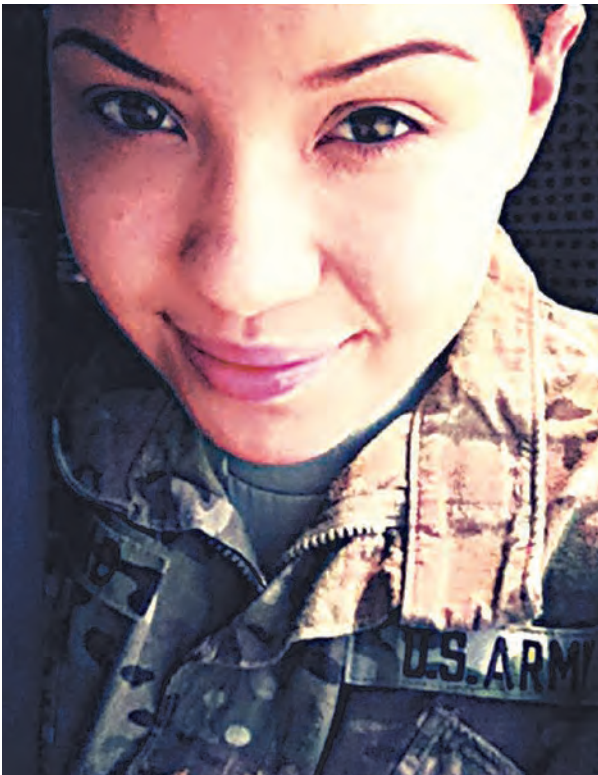


Military

Does someone in your extended family serve
their country as a member of the United States
Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines or Coast Guard?
Send to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



“We are so, so proud of our son, PV2 Terry Rasha,
who persevered through all the obstacles, detours and many,
many roadblocks to enlist in the United States Army.
Now he’s there, living his life-long dream to become
a soldier – and fight for our freedom.”
– **Monica Gabaldon**



“My daughter, Vanessa Muhammad, Aviation
Operation Specialist, TF Fighting Eagles, is stationed at the
First ID Combat Aviation Brigade, Kandahar, Afghanistan.”
– **Linda Covarrubiaz, City Attorney’s Office**



In Memoriam

It’s Time to

A new Alive! feature

Tell Their Story

Every month, *Alive!* publishes the names of those current or
retired City Employees who have died. But who were they?
Did you know them? If you worked with any of these people,
knew a story or two about them or were related to them,
consider writing to *Alive!* and letting us know. *Tell their story!*

- Write a few sentences or paragraphs
- Send in a photo, if you have one
- Let us know your name and connection to the deceased
- Send your memories to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
Subject line: Tell Their Story



*Our thoughts and condolences are with the family and friends of the
following current and retired City employees who have passed away.
The number after the name indicates years of service.*

Active

Alvarez, Jose, DWP, 13
Jackson, Donna, Transportation, 10
Janisse, Stacey, DWP, 10
McManus, Michele, Public Works, 37
Ramirez, Mario, Rec and Parks, 28
Rodriguez, Crystal, Rec and Parks, 1
Strawn, Michael, DWP, 31
Unruh, Robert, CAO, 30

Retired

Aldea, Loida, Public Works, 30
Appel, Rolland, Public Works, 35
Banker, Robert, DWP, 30
Bury, Joseph, Building and Safety, 14
Carlson, Donald, DWP, 34
Carter, Edna, DWP, 19

Ceniceros, Fabian, Public Works, 30
Cornine, Edith, LAPD, 22
Dobbs, Mary, DWP, 15
Dodd, Alan, DWP, 33
Dutka, John, Public Works, 32
Ferugia, Arthur, LAPD, 31
Fong, Helen, Public Works, 11
Furgatch, Leon, DWP, 32
Gibson, Dorithea, City Attorney, 30
Gillette, Robert, Public Works, 39
Graham, Leonard, DWP, 31
Guinn, Kenneth, General Services, 14
Holmquist, B.A., DWP, 29
Hood, Franklin, General Services, 24
Houchens, Margaret, DWP, 16
Hurty, Carl, DWP, 35

Jackson, Fred, DWP, 39
Jackson, Reno, Public Works, 26
Jones, Lois, Library, 27
Jorgensen, Clifford, Public Works, 35
Kawasaki, Toshio, DWP, 22
Kerr, Claude, DWP, 27
Kibbey, Edward, DWP, 32
Kilbride, Francis, Airports, 40
Ma, Virginia, DWP, 10
Medaglia, Joseph, Rec and Parks, 40
Melchor, Melvin, Transportation, 34
Merit, Stephen Craig, Zoo, 12
Merthie, Willie, Public Works, 19
Monteleone, Antonio, DWP, 33
Nakagawa, George, DWP, 27
Overman, Ina, Public Works, 31
Patton, Mark, DWP, 30
Paysinger, George, Rec and Parks, 27
Philpott, Richard, Public Works, 12
Powell, Alton, DWP, 31
Reible, Charles, DWP, 23
Robertson, James, Public Works, 25
Rosser, William, DWP, 34

Santos, Marcelina, General Services, 24
Schumaker, Florence, Library, 23
Sera, Roy, ITA, 42
Settlemyer, George, General Services, 31
Shimoji, Michiko, Public Works, 40
Sill, Gary, Public Works, 34
Snowden, Thelma, LAPD, 27
Stevens, Arthur, Public Works, 26
Stratford, Verabell, DWP, 34
Summers, Theodore, DWP, 23
Swan, Benny, Public Works, 27
Takushi, Hideo, Rec and Parks, 11
Valich, Joseph, DWP, 36
Vescio, Felix, DWP, 30
Walton, Edward, DWP, 10
Walton, Roberta, LAPD, 14
Wandick, Isaac, Public Works, 24
Weems, Thaddeus, Public Works, 36
Williams, Otho, General Services, 30
Wilson, Josephine, General Services, 15



Ted C. Heyl Jr.
~ 1935 – 2013 ~

Remembering **Ted C. Heyl Jr.** *Rec and Parks*

Former Rec and Parks administrator Ted C. Heyl Jr. passed away Nov. 6 in Woodland Hills. He was 78.

Ted grew up in the San Fernando Valley and graduated from Canoga Park High School in 1953, and later from UCLA. He served in the U.S. Army in Okinawa before beginning a long career in Rec and Parks. He offered selfless support to countless young people in LA’s parks, on Little League and Babe Ruth teams and

with many other groups. Later, Ted helped plan the rapid expansion of LA’s network of parks in the 1970s and ’80s as Assistant Planning Officer.

Ted was a true Angeleno and a Valley guy. (One of his favorite movies was *Chinatown*.) There are many stories of Ted’s service to the Department over the many years, first as a park director and then in City Hall. Many stories made the rounds as well about Ted’s remarkable knowledge of sports

in general, and LA sports in particular. One colleague recalled that a sports question had stumped everyone in the office, including the self-proclaimed expert on the subject. In an elevator that day, Ted was asked the question and immediately reeled off the correct answer (“with footnotes and all, it seemed,” recalled the colleague). Thereafter, Ted was the go-to guy to settle sports trivia questions.

Ted is survived by Dolores Averill,

his beloved partner of 37 years. He was a devoted father, brother and uncle to his daughter, Megan Heyl of Los Angeles; sister, Mary Sawyer of Ruidoso, N.M.; brother, John Heyl of Tucson, Ariz.; and four nieces. Ted will be remembered as a modest and generous spirit and as a person who could always be depended upon when others needed his advice and support.

– **Submitted by Ted’s brother,
John D. Heyl, Tucson, Ariz.**

ALIVE! FEATURE



The Best Years

One Man's Journey

Steve Newcomer, Retired, Library, has visited every country on earth – 193 in all. But the longest journey was the one inside of him.

Photos by Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing, and courtesy Steve Newcomer

The United Nations lists 193 nation members. Steve Newcomer has been to all of them, plus many more unofficial territories and regions. He's one of a relative few in the world who have accomplished the feat. It took him 34 years, longer than he worked for the City.

His journeys cost him much in terms of the material possessions he doesn't have in his retirement, but those journeys have given him much more – a worldwide circle of friends, experiences that few can list on their résumé, and a passion for discovery that remains burning to this day.

Steve, the Library's Retired Director of Information Technologies and Collections, has hardly stopped traveling. There is always something new to discover in the world, he says, and in early January, before he returned to LAX to begin another six-month stint abroad, he stopped by the Club Headquarters to talk about his discoveries – both in the world, and inside himself.

Steve Newcomer,
Retired, Library at the
Salar de Uyuni (salt flats)
in southwest Bolivia

**The Salar de
Uyuni (salt flats) in
southwest Bolivia**

Beyond the Comfort Zone

[The *Alive!* Interview]

On Jan. 8, Steve Newcomer, Retired Director of Information Technologies and Collections, Library, stopped by the Club's administrative headquarters to chat about his travels, what he's learned, and making the sacrifices necessary to live a life of discovery. He was interviewed by John Hawkins, Club CEO.

Steve, thanks for joining us today before you head out again. Let's talk very briefly about your city employment.

STEVE: Sure. I started at the City as a Catalog Librarian in 1989 and worked my way to being the Director of Information Technologies and Collections.

And you had a career before that.

STEVE: I was always a restless kind of a person. In fact, I was surprised I ever stuck it out at the Library for 24 years, but I finally found what I enjoyed doing. I'd worked as a librarian previously. I worked bagging groceries in a grocery store. I worked for a peace group in Washington, D.C., a lobby group. I did social service and church work in Puerto Rico. I taught English in Brazil. I worked in refugee camps in Honduras on the Honduras/El Salvador border during the war. And I worked a year for American Airlines.

Got it. You mentioned a lot of really great things in your essay. I don't want to duplicate all of that, but I would imagine it's going to be impossible to name your favorite country you've been to. But maybe the two or three or five favorite countries, of the 193 you've visited?

STEVE: The things that come to mind are some of the encounters I've had, whether it be people or wildlife. Even though Antarctica isn't a country, it's one of the most spectacular places on earth and one that is at the top of my list of a place I'd like to go back to. It has stark beauty, the ice, the mountains, the sea, the penguins. It's just a memorable journey that anyone would appreciate for a lifetime, so even though it's not a country it's still on my list of favorite places.

Brazil... having lived there, I have friends, and I find the country so warm, accepting, sensual. It's a beautiful country as well. It's got everything from magnificent waterfalls and the Amazon River and the beauty of the mountains around Guanabara Bay and Rio. It's spectacular country. Rwanda, my gosh. Talk about an interesting place. Central Africa. The mountain gorillas, an experience you will never, ever forget. Hiking in the mountains and coming close to the gorillas is just awesome. I went back three times just to visit those gorillas. It was just that exciting for me.

Yemen... Yemen is a place that most people would steer clear of because of the instability and some of the unpleasant terrorist activity going on, but it's a country full of cultural fascination. The tribes. The sand dunes. The ancient cities. Fascinating place. Certainly in the top five for me.

You

must have been in the middle of some wars and contentious situations.

STEVE: A few times, yes. Somalia was a trip that was made totally by accident. I was on a plane that landed in Mogadishu, and we were detained there for a few days totally unplanned. There were some dicey moments there with a warlord and gun-toting youth. I went back to Iraq a couple of years ago now. It was much calmer at that time, but certainly there were bomb blasts going off in and around places when I was there. But you take risks wherever you go. You could be struck by a car walking across the street, so while that's always a consideration for me it's never stopped me from going someplace.

Starting Early

Why do you travel? What is that thing that makes you want to explore the world?

STEVE: I think it's genetic, I tell you. My father also liked to travel, although it was very limited at that time just to the few states where he had lived, but perhaps his interest in traveling and seeing scenery and meeting people rubbed off on me in some way.

It's plain and simple curiosity, and I've had that since I was a little kid. I've always wanted to know what was around the corner.

Have you traveled since you were young?

STEVE: As a kid we would take trips around the states, you know, whether it be up to the mountains or to New Mexico or

greater degree of independence in the near future like Kosovo. It's not a U.N. country but at some point could certainly become one.

So then did you go to Yugoslavia?

STEVE: I went to Yugoslavia when it was a united country, and I've been back since all of the separate nations split off, yes.

So the number 193 – does that take into account the political changes that have happened since you started?

STEVE: Right, and it also depends what you call a country. The United Nations has a very defined list and it's easy to go by, but there are many other dependencies and semi-autonomous regions and island groups around the world that are not fully independent, but they act in many ways as independent nations, at least to some degree.

Like Samoa.

STEVE: Yes, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, Bermuda.

Any idea what that real number would be, then, according to your own definition, not the United Nations definition but your own?

STEVE: There are travel groups and clubs out there that like to define these things, and I've always steered clear of having a strong opinion on that, but a local travel group, the Travelers' Century Club, has a board of directors that defines these things. They say there are 324 such countries, including semi-autonomous regions of the world. So I think that's as good of a number as any to use if you want to start expanding beyond the 193 U.N. countries.

Food and Other Adventures

Do you have a set of rules that you go by to stay healthy and not get sick?

STEVE: Cipro, number one. You shouldn't travel anywhere without Cipro. Cipro is a great medicine to kill anything that might end up in your stomach and disorient you. I don't go anywhere without Cipro. It's a prescription drug.

Any other tips for taking care of yourself?

STEVE: I'm very careful about eating. I steer clear of anything that hasn't been cooked or which I can't peel myself. It's simple rules like that.

Bottled water?

STEVE: Bottled water obviously, yes.

What are some memories of the things that you have experienced in terms of eating?

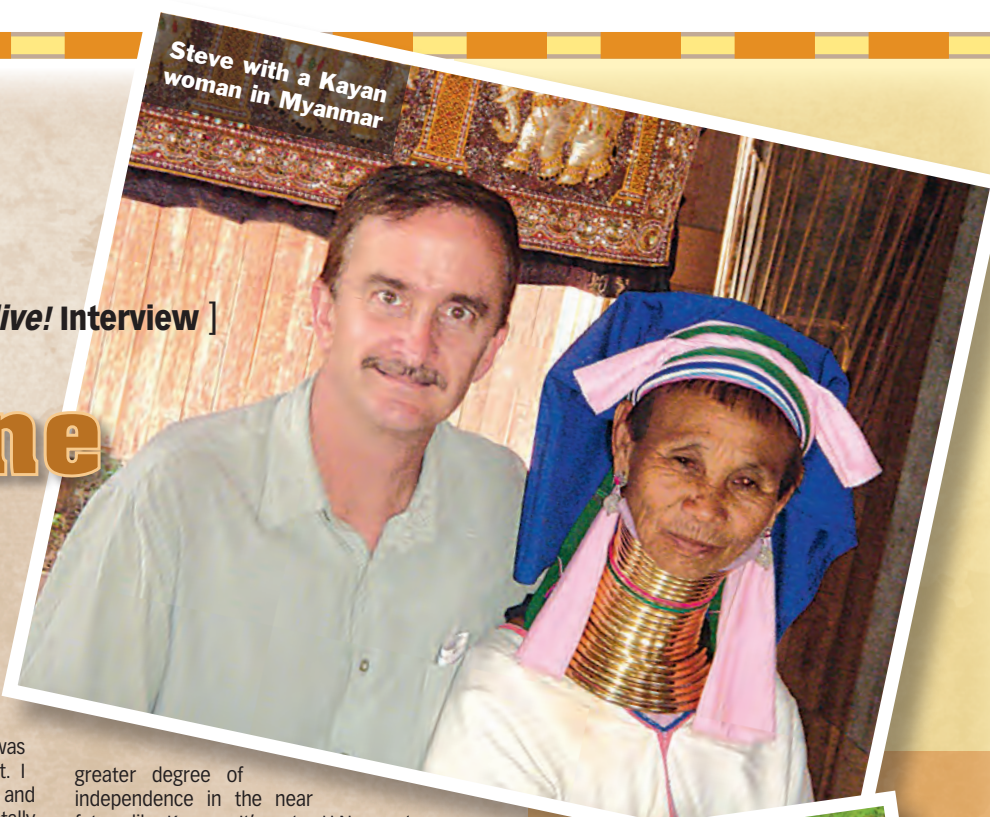
STEVE: It might offend a lot of people, but I've eaten dog. I have eaten camel and monkey and worms; those are some of the things that come to mind. I didn't enjoy them all necessarily, but when you're in a circumstance where that's served to you very proudly by a host family...

You don't have a choice.

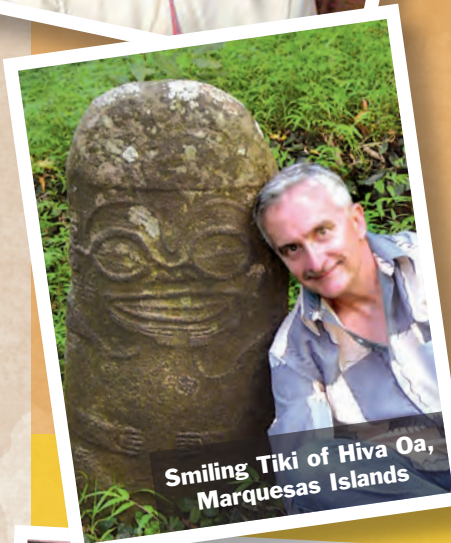
STEVE: You really want to at least give it a try.

A lot of people can say, "Oh, you know, I went to another

— CONTINUED, PAGE 26



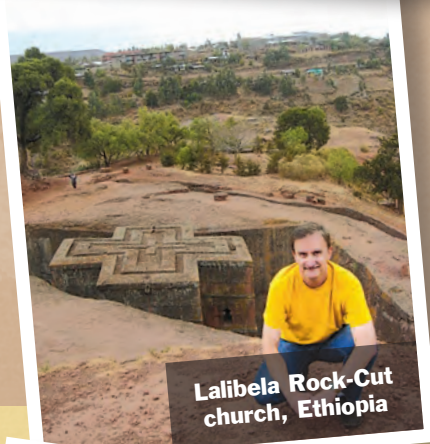
Steve with a Kayan woman in Myanmar



Smiling Tiki of Hiva Oa, Marquesas Islands



At the Equator Monument, Rolas Island, Sao Tome and Principe



Lalibela Rock-Cut church, Ethiopia



Sochi, Russia



Steve Newcomer (right) is interviewed by Club CEO John Hawkins at the Club Headquarters.

ALIVE! FEATURE

The *Alive!* Interview

— CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

Nosy Be,
Madagascar

Lesotho

Stone Money,
Yap, MicronesiaSveti Stefan,
MontenegroChernobyl Reactor,
Ukraine

country,” and they tick that off and check that box. But it seems to me like that was never really your motivation.

STEVE: No.

It wasn't like checking boxes. It was more about adventure and discovery.

STEVE: That's right, and I had never dreamed or imagined that I could visit all of the countries in my lifetime. It was really never the goal. The goal was, as you said, adventure, curiosity, meeting new people, seeing the scenery and sights that I've read about in *National Geographic* since I was a kid. That's what it was about. But the more countries I gradually visited the more possible it seemed that I could reach that

goal of visiting them all, and so I eventually did. But yes, you're right. It was not about checking off boxes. There are a lot of people who do this, but what sets some of us apart from others is that we like to spend some time in the countries we're visiting.

Not just touch down in the airport.

STEVE: Right. So for me, wherever it's been possible, I've spent at least a few days in the country.

And this hasn't stopped you from traveling even more.

STEVE: Oh no, because there's no end to it. You have countries like China and Russia and India out there that are vast expanses, and it takes many visits to see the whole place.

You're leaving again for China next week.

STEVE: I'm going to China. China is a vast country, so I am going back to some of the provinces I haven't visited prior, and taking the bus through Laos as well and see what happens. I'll be gone about six months.

The more you go the more you realize what you're missing.

STEVE: That's exactly right. You end up going somewhere and someone locally tells you, “Oh, you really have to go over there to see...” And you never knew about that place, so it'll never end.

Do you speak any other languages?

STEVE: I speak Portuguese and Spanish, yes. And bits and pieces, a few words here in there in a variety of languages to get by.

Have you found English is pretty much universal?

STEVE: Oh yes. English is the best language to know in most parts of the world. French is a good second, though.

Has the world changed since you started?

STEVE: You bring up a good point. You can go very few places where someone doesn't have a cell phone in their hand. Even in the middle of Africa people have their cell phones or in most cases now smartphones. But that's another thing: Even though I was the director of I.T. for the Los Angeles Public Library, I'm a minimalist when it comes to technology, and most people are surprised by that. I don't own a smartphone, and I don't want to travel with electronic gadgetry. When I travel I want to leave that behind because I find that it distracts me from interacting with the culture in which I find myself. So when I travel I don't care if it's for a week or for six months, I only bring what can go in a small backpack that can fit underneath the airline seat in

front of me. The fewer distractions I have, the less luggage I carry, the less burdened I am with those material things, the more I'm forced to interact with people around me. So that's also a lesson I've learned.

The Inward Journey

How has this changed you?

STEVE: It's made me appreciate that very few issues are black and white in this world. There's a lot of gray, and it's made me appreciate other people's perspectives on things much more. There's always another side to just about every story you can come up with.

The world is more complicated than people want to admit.

STEVE: Yes, people want things to be very easily right or wrong, black or white, and it's just very seldom that way.

‘I'm convinced I was born with a “wanderlust” gene.’

— Steve Newcomer, Retired, Library

You talked in your essay about preconceived notions. What preconceived notions that you had when you started this 34 years ago did you dispel, are gone from you now, or that you have rethought?

STEVE: Oh boy, that's a loaded question. It's a lot of preconceived ideas that I certainly grew up with as a kid in the Midwest that you learn aren't always the case, like kids everywhere have equal opportunity to education, or have food. It's just not true. There are people today who are literally starving in parts of the world, and kids don't have access to education the world over. People don't have access to clean drinking water. Governments are not always taking good care of their people. Religion has its dark and evil side as well as its good and charitable side. So yes, a lot of things that I as a kid grew up believing and thinking were challenged, as is the case when any of us venture out beyond our comfort zones. Here in L.A. we could have similar experiences.

What have you learned?

STEVE: One of the most important lessons I've learned is to be a bit more environmentally conscious. Good ol' Planet Earth is in peril – forests are being eliminated, wildlife habitat destroyed... there's pollution, fish shortages, overpopulation, displacement of peoples, *et cetera*. So I try to give back by assisting local environmental and development groups in some countries, whether it's planting trees or helping farmers buy seeds or dig wells or buy supplies for a school or clinic. I try to do a little bit to ensure that the next generation will inherit a livable planet.

Let's talk about some moments. Do you remember any moments that really either changed you or really touched you that remain with you now?

STEVE: There have been so many, John. In general terms it's been times when those chance encounters with people on a public bus in Guyana or going across the hills of Burkina Faso and local people strike up conversations with you. And one of them will invite you into their home and you end up spending the night or another night, and you're experiencing life as that local family lives it. Those are the special moments for me because you realize that people are very loving and accepting and welcoming, even when they may not have much to offer you, and it touches you. It reminds me that the most important things in life are not necessarily the material things. Yes, material things can add a lot of comfort to one's life and I don't belittle them, but when it comes right down to it, the most fulfilling and meaningful things in life are the relationships one builds and creates with other human beings, whether it be your next door neighbor or someone on the other side of the planet.

When there are events occurring in the world, nine times out of ten I can tell you the name of an individual living in that country who I have met and who I'm thinking of at that moment. My mind immediately goes back to that person I met on the bus or the individual who welcomed me into their home, and I'm wondering, hey, how are they doing? So in effect the thing that has most transformed me is this global family that I have developed over these 34 years.

Do you find your worldview is different than most people's? Are you a little counter-cultural?

STEVE: My worldview is such that when something happens I'm thinking of an individual. I can tell you the name of someone who might be impacted by whatever is going on in the world, whether it be political or economic or geologic. The only thing I can say is my worldview is more personalized maybe than a lot of people because I can put a name to the place, and that impacts how I view events.

Sacrifice

Many people will be reading this and saying, "This is an amazing story, and it sounds like I would like to do it myself," or something like that. But this has come at some significant cost to you.

STEVE: Oh yes. I'm certainly not a wealthy person by any stretch of the imagination. I was a Librarian for the City for 24 years. It's like any passion in life: If you're truly passionate about something you'll find a way to do it, and for me it meant living without a car, living in a small studio apartment, doing without a lot of the electronic gadgets that people like to have, living as simply as I can at home so that I can follow my passion to visit places around the world.

What steps would you recommend people take even to have a small taste of what you've done to alter their travel to the kinds of places they go? What's your advice to people who want to at least taste a little bit of what you know?

STEVE: Everybody is different. The one thing I've learned is that what I may find fun and attractive and appealing is the last thing anybody else would want to do. But I'd say find something that sparks some interest in you and talk to somebody who's been there and who can give you advice on how to get there and what to do and where to stay once you're there. Just dip your toe in the water and get a taste for it and see how it goes.

How did you meet real people in each country, when most of the tourism industry seems to me to kind of give you an experience that you pay for but you don't necessarily connect into the way real people live in each country. What advice can you give to the Club Members who are reading this to find a way to meet a real person in a real country rather than sort of the typical travel or tourist experiences that they would have had?

STEVE: Avoid the group tours. Go on your own. I mean in some places you cannot do that, but the way I've met people and been immersed in these cultures is by going on my own, taking the local transportation, getting on the local bus or train to go somewhere, walking in the streets looking for a hotel to stay in. In these prepackaged tours everything's arranged for you, so many of the opportunities to mingle with local people are very greatly diminished. I have nothing against a prepackaged tour. In some places that's all you can do. North Korea you have to go with a group. The time I went to Libya you had to go with a group. Iraq I had to go with a group.

Cuba?

STEVE: To Cuba I had to go with a group, yes.

How long ago did you go to North Korea? That is like a mystery country.

STEVE: It's the most unique place on the planet, no doubt about it. I went, I don't know, maybe eight years ago or so. There's no place on earth like North Korea.

Do you read a lot?

STEVE: I do, and I think that's why I became a librarian: What does someone with my kind of passion do for a living? My passion developed in part because of my reading. I wanted to learn about all these places on earth, and so I read a lot as a kid. And as a professional librarian you're delving into every imaginable subject every day, helping people with their research needs, so I think that's why I might've become a librarian.

How have your experiences been with Customs and Immigration Services coming back in? Do they ask you why in the world you are going into these countries?

STEVE: Yes. In fact, the least pleasant part of any trip I take is coming back into the United States and being invariably grilled by the customs officials. "Why were you there? What were you doing?" You've got people coming through the customs line with boxes and bundles and enormous amounts of baggage and they're just waved right through. I come along with my little backpack that can go underneath an airline seat and I'm forced to go into the line to have it checked. It's because of my travel history. When I came back from Afghanistan I was pulled aside and questioned at length. The armed security guards came out at LAX to the roadside where people drop off passengers and escorted me back into the building to be cross-examined. It's offensive, but it's the price I have to pay.

You had cleared. You were on your way to your transportation.

STEVE: I had cleared. I was out to catch the bus and they came out and brought me back in. But I'm not bitter, not at all. I'm still traveling.

Steve, thank you for this interview, and safe travels.

STEVE: Sure, you're welcome.

IN HIS OWN WORDS:

The Rewards of Travel

World traveler Steve Newcomer, Library, Retired, reflects on his experiences visiting every nation on earth.

I'm convinced I was born with a "wanderlust" gene: an innate desire to relentlessly explore every corner of our earth. As a kid I'd arise along with the Colorado daybreak to walk around my small town and catch a glimpse of far off Pike's Peak before anyone else had awakened; I loved poring over maps to help plan our family's summer vacations; and there was a high school social studies report I presented on the United Nations, all the while daydreaming what it would be like to actually visit all those exotic countries and the people who call them home.

There were also college courses in Spanish and German as well as the interterm classes that took me away from campus: a cross-cultural immersion experience in the Dominican Republic and a "Middle East Today" course in Israel and the West Bank. But those were just preludes to greater adventures: a year long volunteer service experience in refugee camps on the Honduras/El Salvador border during their civil war, as well as multi-year stints in both Brazil and Puerto Rico, followed by a brief career with American Airlines, when I spent almost as much time taking free flights around the world as I did in the office.

I soon accepted the fact that I cared much more about peering over the next hill and peeking around the next corner and meeting the next stranger than I did about owning a home or a car or any of the other material things that most of my peers prized. And I slowly began to realize that my goal of world travel was indeed possible, if I were willing to forgo many of the commonly pursued comforts of life.

So, with the blessing of generous bosses at the Los Angeles Public Library who allowed me to creatively cobble together vacation time to pursue my peripatetic exploits, I have managed to find buses, trains, trucks, camels, horses, jeeps, planes with see-through floors, boats that leaked, canoes, and of course, my own two feet, to visit the 193 countries (and a lot of their territories) that make up the United Nations. I've inadvertently met presidents and warlords, eaten every manner of "food" and been bitten by bugs that don't have names; I've been treated royally by an Arabian prince, mugged by knife-wielding thieves; invited to a Ugandan teenage circumcision ceremony; interrogated by U.S. Customs officials; brushed up against by a gorilla; and mobbed by children who had never seen a white person before.

But my wanderings haven't just been about crossing international borders. The 34-year journey has been one of interacting with cultures very different from my own, and of creating my own global "family" – individuals whom I have felt drawn to and those who have helped to mold my understanding of the world. It has been a journey about receiving insights from countless people representing a multitude of languages, faiths, and economic and social conditions; and one of sharing myself and my resources with those far less privileged than me. Whether providing soccer balls for kids in Ethiopia, condoms for health workers in Cuba, materials for a house in Sri Lanka, healthcare for a woman suffering from a heart arrhythmia, tuition for a Guinean refugee, or garden supplies for farmers in Rwanda and Brazil, one of my

aims has been to assist people to achieve their own goals, while allowing my own biases and beliefs to be challenged. I set aside 10 percent of the cost of each trip to "give back" to people I meet along the way – people who will likely never have the good fortune to travel the world as I have.

Too often I compare myself with other Americans who have so much more than I do, rather than seeing that I am the wealthy one in the eyes of most of the rest of the world, having plenty to offer if I only choose to do so. The lesson I have repeatedly learned is that it's not one's economic status that provides security and fulfillment, but one's embrace of those who are different from oneself.

And the most enduring lessons often come from the most

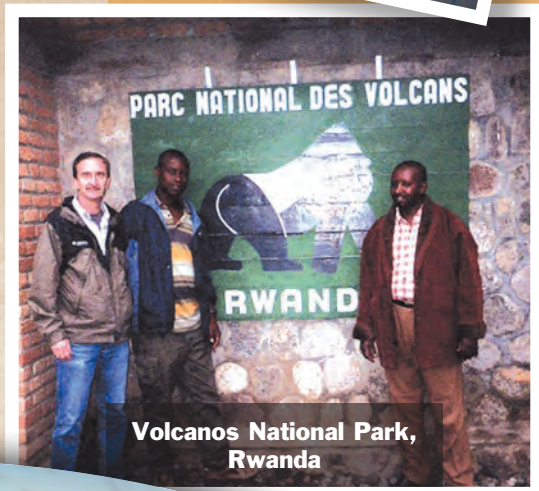
unexpected corners of our globe: a meeting with a gay Iranian student who, facing the death penalty in his own country, could only dream of someday being open about his sexuality; the encounter with a shoeless Somali soldier who tearfully bid me farewell

after I forgave him for roughing me up; and the anti-American Surinamese student who insulted me on a bus but later insisted I spend the night in his home. It is when I allow myself to explore the world beyond my own "comfort zone" that I experience the most meaningful growth.

So to this day, when friends tease me about being nearly 60 and having "nothing to show for it," I remind myself that it's not the "things" that bring me joy, but the "family" that has embraced me in the 193 countries of the world.



Banc d'Arguin National Park, Mauritania



Volcanos National Park, Rwanda



Equator Monument, Uganda

Help Us Blanket the City!



Blanket the City:
A Club winter tradition

Help the Club take care of those living on the streets this winter.

Last year, we put out the call to help those in need downtown. And Club Members came through! So we're continuing *Blanket the City* this winter.

It started two years ago with John Hawkins, Club CEO, and Angel Gomez, Club Member Services Manager, coming into the Club Store one December night, shivering from the cold. And if they were chilly, they thought, what about those living on the streets?

So they hatched a plan: pass out blankets those living on the streets

downtown. To *Blanket the City*. That first night, they gave away eight blankets. That was just a start.

And now, *Blanket the City* has become an official part of Club Angels, the Club's charitable outreach. During the winter months, the Club will be handing out military-grade blankets to those who really need them.

Blanket the City has become a new winter tradition here at the Club!



Join the effort?
Here's how:

- The military-grade blankets cost \$7 each.
- Contribute what you can, and the Club will purchase blankets and hand them out for you.
- Mail your donation of any amount with the completed form below.

Need more information?
Contact John Hawkins
or Angel Gomez with any questions:
jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com or
agomez@cityemployeesclub.com

Help us to Blanket the City!

Yes! I want to help those in need. Count me in.

Place this completed form (with your check made out to Club Angels) in the mail to the address below, or drop off at the Club Store, 120 West 2nd St., downtown. Donations will be acknowledged with official letters of receipt.

☒ My donation of \$_____ is enclosed.



Payment method:
Club Angels accepts checks of any amount

Send checks (with this form) to:
Club Angels
311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Please provide the following information so we can send you a receipt:

Name		
Home Street Address		
City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Work Phone	
Club Member Number (if you are a member):		

Club Angels is a registered 501(c)3 charitable organization. Contributions to Club Angeles are tax-deductible as defined by the U.S. tax code. Consult your tax professional.

City of Los Angeles Employees & Club Members Save!

Finally, a Family Plan built for all families.

With T-Mobile®, you'll save big: 4 lines of unlimited talk, text, and web on our advanced nationwide 4G network for less than \$100/month with your **15% Advantage™ discount**. And only T-Mobile applies your discount to EVERY line on your account, so you can save even more. It's all part of our new Simple Choice Plan for families, with no annual service contracts, no overages while on our network, and no minimum credit scores required.



Get savings for your family today!



T-Mobile®
Advantage™ Program

Call Advantage Direct™ at 1-866-464-8662 and use promo code **387TMOFAV**.

Have your association or employee ID ready when you call.

Discount on lines applies to up to 5 lines.

Capable device required to achieve 4G speeds. Limited-time offer; subject to change. Taxes and fees additional. Not all features available on all devices. **Unlimited talk and text features for direct U.S. communications between two people.** **General Terms:** At participating locations. Domestic only. Credit approval, deposit, and \$10 SIM starter kit may be required. If you switch plans, you may be bound by existing terms (including early termination provisions) and/or charged up to a \$200 fee. Regulatory Programs Fee of \$1.61 per line/month applies. Taxes approx. 6–28% of bill. Partial megabytes rounded up. Full speeds available up to monthly allotment, then slowed to 2G speeds for rest of billing cycle. Roaming and on-network data allotments differ; see your selected service for details. **Monthly Discount:** Discount subject to change. Not available in Puerto Rico. Discount applied to recurring charges while customer remains eligible and does not apply to overage, long distance, roaming, taxes and fees, or other charges. **Family Plans:** All lines must be activated in same T-Mobile market with same billing address and area code. **Coverage** not available everywhere. **Network Management:** Data traffic of postpaid plan options with limited high-speed data allotments greater than 2 GB will be prioritized over other currently offered plan options during periods of congestion. Service may be **slowed, suspended, terminated, or restricted** for misuse, abnormal use, interference with our network or ability to provide quality service to other users, or significant roaming. See brochures and **Terms and Conditions (including arbitration provision)** at www.t-mobile.com for additional information. Advantage and Advantage Direct are trademarks of T-Mobile USA, Inc. T-Mobile and the magenta color are registered trademarks of Deutsche Telekom AG. © 2013 T-Mobile USA, Inc.

{ Who are the people you see every day? }

No. 63 in a series.



People We See

in downtown Los Angeles.

Meet James McCoy.

AGE: "I'm 50."
BIRTHPLACE: Indianapolis.
MARITAL STATUS: "Single."
FAMILY: "I have one older brother."
EDUCATION: "I graduated from high school."
PLAY SPORTS IN HIGH SCHOOL? "Oh yeah, all of them, and collected a lot of trophies."
MILITARY SERVICE: "I was in the Navy for a couple of years. I went in under the buddy system. But I got injured in a motorcycle accident and was medically discharged after two years."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "Right here, at Third and Main."
FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY: "Skid Row, the seafood district."
WHEN DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "1997."
WHY DID YOU MOVE TO LOS ANGELES? "Because my mom was out here and I wanted to be closer to her. My mom was good to me - I traveled around the world twice with my parents."
RELIGION: "I'm a Christian."
FAVORITE MOVIE: "Caddyshack."
FAVORITE ACTOR: "Denzel, of course."
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "I just love TV, period."
FAVORITE CANDY: "Snickers."
FAVORITE FOOD: "I love chicken."
FAVORITE MUSIC: "I like all kinds of music."
LAST BOOK READ: "LA Queen. It was an 'urban book'."
LAST JOB: "I was a detailer of cars. I also do bodywork."
FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "Graduating from grade school was a fond memory for me. It was a really big deal in my family since so many kids in my circle weren't doing well academically."
WHO ARE YOUR FRIENDS? "I have tons of friends. In fact many of them are right here, staying with me at this street corner. I'm the Camp Captain, keeping watch over everyone here, making sure they are okay."
MOST PRIZED POSSESSION: "My dog, Blackie."
LAST THING EATEN: "I had some delicious pizza about 20 minutes ago."
WHAT HE WOULD DO WITH \$1 MILLION: "Donate some of it to help the homeless, especially addicts."
MAKE A WISH: "Peace."

*The Club gave James a Bucket and a Blanket, a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, band wipes, some food, \$20 and bottled water.
The interview took place Jan. 21 at Main and Third Streets.
Photos by John Hawkins and Angel Gomez.*



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

The City Parties!

Part 2

Special Holiday Party Section

The City Parties!

All across the City, you celebrated the holidays. And *Alive!* was there!

Here in February, *Alive!* continues its coverage of the City Social Season 2013, with stories and photos from Club staff... and sent in by you, too.

Enjoy the memories!



Story by Harold Johnson, Airports; Photos by Jay Berkowitz, LAX Photographer, and by Harold Johnson

LAX Community Relations

On Dec. 13, Airports/Community Relations hosted Santa Claus, who took a break from his work at the North Pole to visit preschool and kindergarten students from Hawthorne's Zela Davis Elementary School and Wiseburn's Cabrillo and Anza Elementary School. Santa greeted the students at the Flight Path Museum, where the young students were treated to holiday goodies and entertainment.

"We hold this holiday event every year for local students," said Maria Tesoro, LAX Community Relations director. "It's an important part of our outreach program to bring young travelers to the airport and expose them to the wonderful world of aviation at the Flight Path Museum. A visit to the airport during the holidays is especially exciting since the children met Santa and leave the airport with a handful of goodies."

The students were entertained by the Hawthorne Police Department's K-9 Scotty and Gaby, the Talking Car. They were also greeted by Silly Sally the clown and an LAX Airport Police officer, who talked about safety tips. Finally, Santa read *The Night Before Christmas* to the students.

The City Parties!

From left: Officer Mike Dear, 15 years of City service, Club Member; Ericka Bonilla, LAUSD; Helen Dear, spouse of Mike Dear; and Patty Assayag, guest.



From left: Officer Gregg Iwamiya, 11 years of City service, Club Member; and Officer III Alfredo Funes, 11 years, Club Member, with his wife, Angela.



From left: Officer III Oscar Gatewood, 23 years of City service, Club Member; LAAPOA Board Member Det. Bruce Autry, 13 years, Club Member; and FTO Shawnee Rogers, 10 years, Club Member.



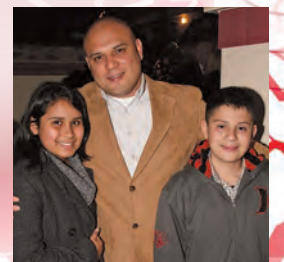
From left: Officer Gerard Kilayko, 10 years of City service, Club Member, with his wife, Anna.



Back, from left: Brandy Lane, daughter; Wesley Santa Marina, brother of Lisa; and Jaliscia McKinney, cousin of Lisa. Front: Howard Chambliss, Airport Traffic and Security, 11 years of City service, Club Member, and Officer Lisa Lane, 10 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer Lawrence Scottini, 10 years of City service, Club Member; and Officer Rodolfo Bojorquez, 10 years, Club Member, with his wife, Lina.



Ernie Garcia, PO, 10 years of service, Club Member with his daughter Mia and son Isaiah.

Story and photos by Arlene Herrero,
Club Director of Product Development

Airport Police Activities League

On Dec. 7, the Airport Police Athletics and Activities League (LAAPOA) held its "Mistletoe Memories" holiday party. More than 100 people came to celebrate, enjoy the food and win prizes at the event, which took place at the Embassy Suites hotel near LAX.

Special thanks go to LAAPOA President Marshall McClain and LAAPOA Secretary Michael Dear.



From left: Officer Ericka Holliday, 7 years of City service, Club Member; and Adela Lopez, Drill Instructor, 7 years, Club Member, with her husband, Martin.



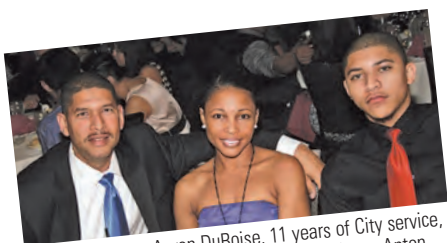
From left: Michael Dear, LAAPOA Secretary, Club Member; LAAPOA President Marshall McClain, Club Member; and LAAPOA Treasurer Rupert Staine, Club Member.



From left: LAAPOA Assistant Secretary Julio Aparicio, Club Member, with his wife, Beverly.



From left: Mike Manahan, K9 Handler, 14 years of City service, Club Member; Luis Zenteno, K9 Handler, 12 years, Club Member; and Officer Andrei Soto, 9 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer Aaron DuBoise, 11 years of City service, Club Member, with his wife, LaWanda, and son, Anton.



From left: Officer Andrew Allen, 25 years of City service, Club Member; and LAAPOA Vice President Det. Julius Levy, 23 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer Fernando Farias, 7 years of City service, Club Member; Officer Maria Duenez, 7 years, Club Member; and Officer Roxanna Mendez, 7 years, Club Member.



LAAPOA Board Member Member Steven Bradford is presented with a commemorative plaque.



Officer Randy Armenta, 7 years of City service, Club Member; with his wife, Elisha; son, Julian, 1, and daughter, Melia, 3.



Officer Fritz Corros, 6 years of City service, Club Member, with his wife, Cathy.



From left: Maria Vargas, LA County; and Barbara and Joe Flannagan, Director of PORAC Los Angeles Chapter North.



From left: Officer Ruth Avalos, 6 years of City service; Jose Delgado, guest; and Christina Ocon, wife of Officer Eleuterio Ocon, 6 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Tamara Staine, Traffic Officer, Transportation, 1 year of service; and LAAPOA Treasurer Rupert Staine, 20 years, Club Member.



Ashley Wilson, guest, and Officer Frank Shin, 10 years of City service, Club Member.



Back, from left: children Malysa, Ethan and Shawn. Front: Michelle and K9 Officer Eren Orlanes, 23 years of City service, Club Member.



Diego Vasquez, PO, 7 years of City service, with his guest, Suky.



Officer Lisa Lane, 10 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Alda Duran, ITC, LA County; Officer Joe Villalobos, 11 years of City service, Club Member; and Officer Rob Yanez, 13 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer Jackson Muchiri, 6 years of City service, Club Member; and Motor Officer Julio Aparicio, 8 years, Club Member.



From left: Vicki Iseman, Partner, Alcalde and Fay; Tatanya Szeliga, Partner, Alcalde and Fay; and Marshall McClain, LAAPOA President, Club Member, with his wife, Yvette.

The City Parties!



Gary Glade, Photographer II, 15 years of City service, Club Member.



Melissa Kramer-Sarrett, Criminalist II, 8 years of City service.



From left: Meghan Cirivello, Criminalist, 11 years of City service; Kristina Takeshita, Supervising Criminalist, 18 years, Club Member; Guy Holloman, Criminalist, 13 years; and Jessica Valles, Criminalist, 8 years.



Janet Sanchez, Lab Technician, 8 years of service.



From left: Stacy Vanderschaaf, Criminalist, 7 years of City service; Shannon Kelly, Criminalist, 6 years, Club Member; Jessica Valles, Criminalist, 8 years; Meiling Robinson, Criminalist, 6 years; and (in back) Chris Lopez, Lab Technician, 1 year.



From left: Victor Palomino, Systems Analyst, 13 years of City service; Erol Ergun, Criminalist, 5 years; Sue Rinehart, Criminalist III, 19 years; and Alexa Calderaro, Criminalist, 11 years.



From left: Brad Tom, Criminalist, 4 years of City service; and Bryan Kim, Criminalist, 3 years.



Lisa Schliebe, Criminalist II, 5 years of City service; and Gabe Mueck, Criminalist II, 3 years.



From left: Robert Broderick, Criminalist, 8 years of City service; Janet Sanchez, Laboratory Technician, 8 years; and Jeff Lowe, Criminalist, 13 years.



From left: Stacy Vanderschaaf, Criminalist, 7 years of City service; Shannon Kelly, Criminalist, 6 years, Club Member; Liz Sholl, Criminalist, 4 years; Guy Holloman, Criminalist, 13 years; and Meiling Robinson, Criminalist, 6 years.



From left: Anna Madrid, Forensic Specialist, 13 years of City service; Belinda Kui, Forensic Specialist, 8 years; and Nicole Osborn, Forensic Specialist, 10 years, Club Member.



From left: Francine Segura, Clerk Typist, 8 years of City service; Yuli Cotango, Architectural Drafting Technician, 5 years; Kim Fletes, Management Analyst, 7 years; Jennifer Sanchez, Criminalist, 2 years; and Angela Zdanowski, Criminalist, 12 years.



Art Sanchez, Supervisor, 28 years of City service, Club Member, with Herminio Garcia, guest.



Reanna Cantu, Clerk Typist, 7 years of City service, with her husband, Anthony.



Laura and David Barragan, RCTO, 11 years of City service.



Salomon Galvez, RCTO, 11 years of City service, with son, Cesar, and daughter, Wendy.



Maura and Richard Guzman, RCTO, 20 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Sergio Playo, Driver, 14 years of City service, with Julia Playo, guest.



From left: David Barragan, RCTO, 11 years of City service; and Basilio Llamas, RCTO, 13 years, Club Member.



Lety and Joe Castillo, Retired.



North Central Committee, from left: Carlos Romo, RCTO II, 6 years of City service, Club Member, Treasurer; Mario Macias, 9 years, Sergeant at Arms; Jesse Valdez, RCTO II, 13 years, President; and Andy Morales, RCTO II, 28 years, Club Member, Vice President.



Robert Morales, RCTO II, 10 years of City service, Club Member, with his wife, Johanna.



From left: Dina Navarro, Secretary, 24 years of City service; and Anthony Cardenas, Maintenance Laborer, 13 years of service, Club Member, with his wife, Denise.



Javier Reza, RCTO II, 16 years of City service, with his wife, Lucille.



From left: Michael Powell, Maintenance Labor, 2 months of City service, Club Member; and Steven Hall, Supervisor, 23 years, Club Member.



Desiree and Jesse Valdes, RCTO II, 13 years of City service, Club Member.



Oscar Vargas, RCTO, 14 years of City service, with his wife, Rosario.



From left: Robert Alarcon, guest; Heidi Gonzalez, Clerk Typist, 6 years of City service; and Cathy Moreno, guest.



Carlos Chaffino, Truck Operator, 26 years of City service, Club Member, with his wife, Donna.



Patty and Antonio Garcia, RCTO, 14 years of City service.



Juan Galvez, RCTO, 13 years of City service, with his wife, Beatriz.

Story by Dalila Vielma, Club Counselor; Photos by Isabel Marquez, Club Counselor

LAPD Crime Lab

The LAPD's Scientific Investigation Division gathered at noon Dec. 13 at XLANes downtown to celebrate the holiday season. Guests could partake in some or all of the fun activities available, including bowling, karaoke, and arcade games. Lunch was provided and a number of prizes were raffled.

The Club thanks Kim Fletes, Management Analyst, for assisting us in the production of this article.

N. Central Sanitation

On Dec. 21, Public Works' North Central Sanitation Yard held its annual holiday party at Maggie's Pub in Santa Fe Springs. The employees from North Central and their families dressed in their Christmas best to enjoy an evening full of music, dancing, good food, raffles, and of course good company.

Thanks to the North Central Committee and the Sanitation Department for inviting us to their successful event.

The City Parties!



From left: Marisela Caraballo DiRuggiero, Director of Legislative Affairs, 11 years of City service; Cecilia Moreno, Community Affairs Advocate, 7 years, Club Member; and Erika Velazquez, guest.



From left: Mary Ramos, Clerk Typist, 8 years of City service, Club Member; and Christine Pina, Clerk Typist, 8 years, Club Member.



Joseph Maldonado, Student Worker, 1 year of City service, with guests.



From left: Jessica Bautista, Management Aide, 17 years of City service, Club Member; and Vanessa Guillen, Clerk Typist, 9 years, Club Member.



From left: Rafael Diaz, Maintenance Labor, 7 years of City service, Club Member, with his wife, Mariana.

Story and photos by Isabel Marquez, Club Counselor

Harbor Employees Club

On Dec. 14 the Harbor Employees Club held its holiday party at the Ports O Call Restaurant. Members celebrated the holidays with a Masquerade Ball. They enjoyed an evening with food, prizes and dancing.

Thanks to the Harbor Employees Club for a wonderful party, and thanks to Jessica Bautista, Club Member, for inviting us.



From left: Daniel Alanis, guest; and Beverly Monroy, Student Worker, 6 months of City service.



From left: John Posadas, Structural Assistant, 9 years of City service, and Dale Posadas, guest.



Chris Burt, HVAC Supervisor, 8 years of City service, Club Member, with Lisa Burt, guest.



From left: Cynthia Ruiz, Deputy Executive Director, 10 years of City service; Rodney Bolten, guest; Stephanie Holloman, Training and Career Development Officer, 8 years, Club Member; and Guy Justin Holloman, Criminalist III, 13 years.



From left: Christopher Trinidad, Project Construction Manager, 9 years of City service, Club Member, and Faith Olivares, guest.



Don McLaurin, Management Assistant, 6 years of City service, Club Member, with Christine Lo, guest.



From left: Guillermo Perez, Roofer, 6 years of City service, Club Member; and Armando Godínez, Mechanical Helper, 6 years, Club Member.



Robin Jackson, Management Analyst, 30 years of City service.



From left: Jacqueline Powell, Maintenance Construction Laborer, 7 years of City service, Club Member, and Gina Thompson, guest.



From left: Melissa Westby, guest; and Crystal Lee, Civil Engineering Associate III, 7 years of City service.



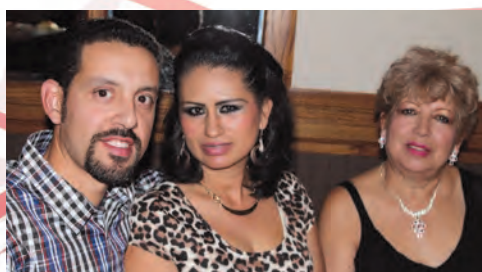
Maurice Jacobs, Construction Equipment Service Worker, 16 years of City service, Club Member, with Michelle Ward, guest.



From left: Beverly Monroy, Student Worker, 1 year of City service; Maria Ambriz, Student Worker, 1 year; and Kristy Ambriz, Student Worker, 6 months.



From left: Nicole Vennis, guest; and Natalie Valenzuela, Secretary, 12 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Pablo De La Torre, Construction Maintenance, 1 year of City service; Maria Ruiz, Construction Maintenance, 2 years; and Irma Flores, Custodian, 4 years.



From left: Tracy Zuliani, Transportation Planning Associate II, 14 years of City service, and Michael Booher, guest.



Top, from left: Mariana and Rafael Diaz, Maintenance Labor, 7 years of City service, Club Member. Bottom: Luz Ortiz and Julio Ortiz, guests; Lizette Flores, guest; and Marcos Rosales, guest.

The City Parties!



Story and photos courtesy Harold Johnson, Airports

Airport Employees Association

The LAX Association of Airport Employees (AAE) held its annual Children's Holiday Party Dec. 7 at Golf N' Stuff in Norwalk.

More than 840 attendees came out in the rainy weather to attend the festivities, which included a visit with Santa. Santa was there to pose with the children and take notes on their holiday wishes.

"It's always a great feeling to see families come together and enjoy the holiday season," said Amylou Canonizado, Environmental Services Specialist, Airports, and the event chairperson. "We chose Golf N' Stuff because there were various activities that people could participate in. This was our first year at Golf N' Stuff, so it was a new experience for everyone."

Golf N' Stuff has vast amenities to entertain children and adults. The adventures begin in the game room then proceeds into the yard where miniature golf, bumper cars and boats, a miniature railroad, and real racecars awaited.

At the end of the day, the AAE raffle offered more than 50 gifts including Beats headphones, Magic Mountain tickets for families of four, and the top prize, an Apple iPad Mini.

"All the committee members put an enormous amount of effort putting the event together, so I would like to thank them," said Jimmy Sparks, Mechanical Helper, Airports/Facilities Engineering Division, and AAE branch president. "Despite the rain, the event turned out to be successful. We hope everyone had a great time."



The City Parties!



Officer Jamey Stearns, 5 years of City service, Club Member, and his wife, Ronya.



Officer Ill Dong Lee, 10 years of City service, Club Member, and his wife, Sooji Lee.



From left: Officer Ill Art Kurkowski, 7 years of City service, Club Member; Officer Nathan Blair, 5 years, Club Member; Jackie Causillas, Club Counselor; Officer Ill Ish Flores, 7 years; and Officer Ill Roberto Redondo, 7 years, Club Member.



Jessica Labray, guest, and Officer Justin Sepe, 7 years of City service, Club Member.



Tracy and Motor Officer Mike Glimpse.



From left: Officer Cheryl Morris, 19 years of City service, Club Member; Bianca Nalls, guest; and Tamara Armstrong, Dispatcher, 10 years, Club Member.



From left: Officer Francisco Nunez, 5 years of City service, Club Member; Officer Alfred Moya, 7 years, Club Member; and Officer Guillermo Lopez, 6 years, Club Member.



Bottom, from left: Officer Nathan Blair, 5 years of City service, Club Member; and Sgt. Rosario Ferrara, Club Member. Top: Officer Michael Canlas, 8 years, Club Member; Officer Ill Philip Heem, 6 years; Officer Frank Huang, 6 years; and Officer Ill Danny Rodriguez, 8 years, Club Member.

Story by Jackie Causillas and Isabel Marquez, Club Counselors; Photos by Isaac Burciaga

Port Police Association

On Dec. 7, the Port Police Association gathered at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Pedro for its "Great Gatsby" holiday party. Employees and their guests arrived in their 1920s attire, and the evening consisted of dinner, dancing and casino games.

Special congratulations go to the organizing committee for their excellent work.



From left: Samantha and Sr. Lead Officer William Yocham, 13 years of City service, Club Member; and Rudy Meza, Retired, 32 years, Club Member, with his wife, Moe.



Diana and Sr. Lead Officer Ismael Flores, 8 years of City service, Club Member.



Rebecca and Officer Nathan Blair.



From left: Sonia Solis, LAPD, 13 years of City service; Ofelia Zuniga, award recipient; and Maria Peneche, guest.



From left: Patty Magdelon, guest; Alex Mayagoitia, Mechanical Helper, DWP, 14 years of City service.



Dan Chavez, City Attorney's Office, 33 years of City service; and Sophia Chavez, City Attorney's Office, 24 years.



Eddie Hinojosa, DWP, Retired, 32 years of City service; with Kathy Chavez, guest.



Joanne and Gilbert Najar, LAPD Communications, PSR II, 25 years of City service.



From left: Bill Sias, LA County, 15 years of service; and Richard Zaldivar, guest.



Raymond Garcia, DWP, Retired, 36 years of service, with his wife, Ralph.



From left: Stella Sias, President of LACECA, DWP, 26 years of City service; Marcues Gutierrez, DWP, 30 years; and a guest.



From left: Mary Alvarez, DWP; and Jaime Sanchez, City Attorney's Office, 26 years of City service.



Ramon Vega, guest, with Andrea Ocampo, Office of Finance, 13 years of City service.



From left: Veronica Mendez, Utility Administration, DWP, 25 years of City service; Margarita Flores, Legal Division, 10 years of service; Gloria Ortiz, Assistant Claims Representative, DWP, 25 years; Gil Cisneros, Electrical Mechanic, DWP, 24 years; and Felicia Frericks, Legal Secretary, DWP, 33 years.



Alderine Martinez, niece of Club Member Lupe Durazo, with her son, U.S. Marine Eric Martinez.



Front, from left: Katherine Valenzuela, CTE Career Tech Education; Mimi Walker, Second Vice President, DWP, 25 years of City service; and volunteers Cynthia Tellez and Cinthya Velasquez. Back: Eric Martinez, U.S. Marine.

Story and photos by Robert Larios, Club Vice President of Operations

LACECA

The Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA) held its annual holiday party Dec. 5 in the Tom Bradley Room high atop City Hall.

Entertainment was provided by DJ Mickey. Christmas carols were performed by Laura Lares-Hernandez, Margie Garcia and Fernie "Elviz" Ramirez. The toys collected in a holiday drive were donated to the York Neighborhood Leadership group.

Special thanks go to Laura Rangel and the entire LACECA Board for inviting the Club to the party.



Maria Lucero, DWP, Legal Secretary, 25 years of City service, with Randy Ares, guest.



Patrick Sanchez, Welder, DWP, 14 years of City service, with his son, Gabriel.

History Comes Alive!

Tales From the City Archives



by Michael E. Holland
City Archivist



This page from the 1952 scrapbook chronicles the arrest of an LAPD sergeant on bookmaking charges.



This page from the 1952 scrapbook includes the latest news of reputed mobster Mickey Cohen.

This page from a 1952 scrapbook journals a shooting on Christmas.



The 1952 scrapbook includes a story of actress Zsa Zsa Gabor donating \$100 to the Police Relief Association.

By Michael E. Holland

There are few Los Angeles institutions more popular to the film and television industry than the Los Angeles Police Dept. The people who protect the nation's second largest city never cease to fascinate the tellers of both fictional drama and those trying to tell the story of the City through a specific historical lens. I just wish the media's production budgets allowed a bit more time and money for research, since the end results usually show a lack of due diligence. That's too bad, because there are so many resources in Los Angeles to choose from, and that includes the Los Angeles City Archives.



William H. Parker, former LAPD Chief of Police.

There is a new crime show on cable network TNT called *Mob City* that aired back in December. Taking place in Los Angeles starting in 1947 with the occasional flashbacks to earlier days, the show follows the efforts of a crime unit dedicated to keeping the mobsters including Mickey Cohen at bay and, the force hoped, out of the City altogether. But the story includes corrupt cops and politicians as you might expect in a story such as this one. The basic facts are somewhat based on a book written by John Buntin called *L.A. Noir: The Struggle for the Soul of America's Most Seductive City*, published in 2009.

First disclosure: John Buntin spent some time with us here at the Archives researching his book. Second disclosure: My wife is a television critic who visited the show set and saw some clips last summer as they were beginning production. Buntin studied several of our archival resources for his book; among them were the LAPD annual reports and the LAPD scrapbooks.

The annual report is required under the City Charter to keep the mayor, City Council and other officials aware of what the department considers necessary to do the public's business. The annual reports represent everything the Police Dept. did in the previous year using statistics covering numbers of crimes reported, arrests made and dollars spent. The scrapbook program was started in 1947 by the Public Relations office for in-house purposes. The books contain clippings from most, if not all, of the local daily newspapers, highlighting who was

committing the crimes and who made the arrests. They were collected and assembled in chronological order and can be very useful to follow a specific event instead of going through months' worth of microfilm.

The effect of William H. Parker becoming Chief of Police was immediate on our archival materials. For the year that *Mob City* opens, 1947, the annual report is 164 pages of densely packed tables, charts and graphs with incredible detail including which hours of what days of the week were most likely to have crime take

to do an almost impossible task. One example that year was the recruitment process in which 6,448 applicants began the selection process and only 196 survived all the exams, training and probation for a paltry 3.8 percent acceptance rate. So the annual report became a tool to promote support for the department. But the statistics weren't forgotten. They became their own published report known as the Statistical Digest and are also in the archives.

Meanwhile, the scrapbooks included clippings of crooked cops being arrested and prosecuted for a variety of crimes in addition to the petty criminals and organized criminals working in the City. Chief Parker seemed to have given the PID the ability to include the dark side of the police force in their efforts. The scrapbooks of the 1950s and 1960s give

a more complete look at what the LAPD brass saw and considered important, whereas the late 1940s books dealt more with trade show-type events than department activity.

The greatest shot in the arm for morale came in the form of *Dragnet*. First as a radio show in 1950 and later as the iconic television show, *Dragnet* has its own scrapbook in the archive with press releases, comic book strips and even real crime reporting written in the same deadpan style popularized by the show.

The image of the straight-arrow cop being the ultimate professional could not have been further from the sad truth that still existed in the 1950s. The annual reports and scrapbooks carried the message that crime of all kinds continued to increase while manpower decreased to 1.88 officers per 1000 citizens. The imagery and photographs in the reports paint a portrait of a city under siege but fighting back, as in a crusade, with new tools and knowledge. But the next page revealed a need for more of everything to keep pace with the criminals and a growing population of citizens.

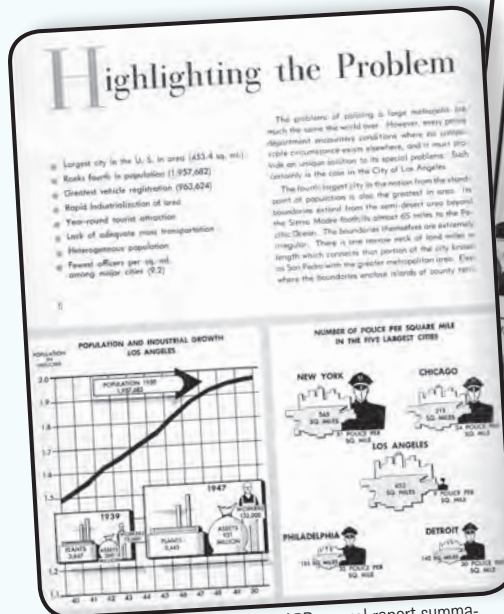
If *Mob City* gets renewed, I hope the research staff will pay me a visit. There are enough real-life stories here that would support the story they are trying to tell if they are serious of showing the post-war evolution of both William H. Parker and the LAPD into the local history they are today.

LAPD History in the Archives

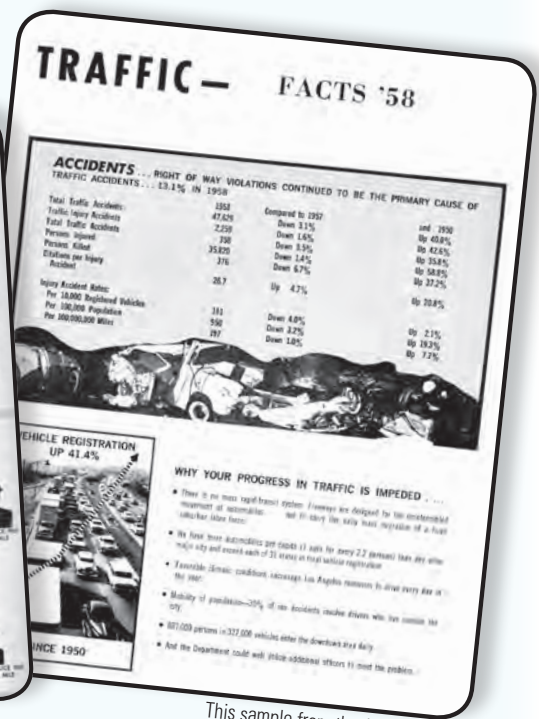
There's a trove of the Police Dept.'s history in the City Archives.

place (Saturday evenings accounted for 17 percent of all crimes committed that year. Sundays as a whole were a close second at 15 percent). There was no public relations spin in the report.

That had changed by 1950, Parker's first year on the job. The Public Relations office became known as Public Information Division under the new Bureau of Administration. Now the role of the annual report was to highlight the department itself and what role it played in our public safety, quality of life and why it needed more resources



This page from a 1950 LAPD annual report summarizes the challenges facing the department.



This sample from the 1958 LAPD annual report lists traffic statistics.



100 N. 1ST St., Ste. 301, Burbank, CA 91502
(888) 801-5522 CA License #0252636

Club Members! Save on your Auto Insurance!



Get a
\$50 Arco Gas Card
For Club Members
if they purchase
by March 1

United Agencies is your Club recommended Insurance Broker.

When it comes to their auto Insurance, United Agencies has been serving hundreds of Club Members for years. We provide a high level of personal service, with some of the lowest rates in California. Come experience the difference in service you get when you say, "I'm with the Club!"

Take a look at how **United Agencies** stacks up against the competition!

	COMPANY	(90041 Zip Code)
California Automobile Insurance Premium Survey	Farmers	\$2,375
	GEICO	\$1,527
	Allstate	\$1,310
	State Farm	\$1,246
	21st Century	\$1,113
	United Agencies	\$964

These insurance products are brought to you by the Club's Partner, United Agencies, Inc. CA Lic. # 0252636
United Agencies represents Mercury Insurance Group, as well as Chubb Insurance, Hartford, Fireman's Fund, Progressive, Civil Service Employees Insurance, Allied, Safeco, Travelers, Unigard and Encompass.

(888) 801-5522
DIRECT LINE FOR CLUB MEMBERS



Home and Auto Insurance
Services provided
for members of the
CITY EMPLOYEE'S CLUB

**We also have great rates on Homes, Boats,
Motorcycles, RV's, Rental Properties
and Apartment Buildings.**

A FREE Benefit to members of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles

CITY EMPLOYEES AT WORK



As observed by Dalila Vielma, Club Counselor
Here are, from left, **LAPD Officers Jason Marquez**, 7 years of City service, and **Luis Ortega**, 8 years, Club Member, patrolling the El Pueblo Historic Monument/Olvera Street.



As observed by Isabel Marquez, Club Counselor
Here's **Baltazar Menjivar, Custodian, El Pueblo Historic Monument**, 15 years of City service, keeping our City clean.



Here's **Chermaine Fontenette, Refuse Collection Truck Operator, Public Works/ Sanitation**, 7 years of City service, Club Member, on the job.
"Believe it or not, my mother, a retired Sheriff's Deputy, and my father, a retired LAPD Officer, had me in a City fire truck at the age of 4," Chermaine recounts. "You can see the city numbers on the side of the truck very lightly but visible. My mom can't remember, but she said I was destined to be City worker and in some form of a truck."

**Do you have a photo of City Employees on the job?
Send it in and we might print it! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com**



John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO

WIN A
\$25 TARGET
GIFT CARD



"I took a wonderful vacation to Peru with my family in July 2011, which included a visit to Machu Picchu. We got up at 4 a.m. so that we could arrive early and see the sun rise. This is my favorite picture. This was an adventure that was unforgettable!"

– **Diana Felszeghy, Retired, LAPD**

John's comment: One day I'll be taking a picture like this! Very nice, and the early morning wakeup call paid off!



"This photo is from the Japanese Gardens at Manito Park in Spokane, Wash. I shot this right before the winds blew all the fall leaves off the trees."

– **Jill Weismann, Cheney, Wash., widow of the late Robert C. Weismann**
John's comment: What colors! You have captured the most vibrant and explosive colors I've seen in a long time. Nice work, Jill!



"In August my wife and I went on a Grand Circle road trip. During our journey, we made a pit stop at the Antelope Slot Canyon, which is managed by the Lake Powell Navajo Tribal Park. It was very busy and packed with tourists. Fortunately I was able to wait long enough for the tourists to move forward so I could take this picture."

– **Kurt D. Garcia, LAPD**

John's comment: The color contrasts that you captured are amazing, Kurt – it's not only a Picture Perfect, but a poster should be made, too. Thanks for sharing!



"I snapped this great picture of my youngest son, Collin, in mid-air. We had an awesome day at the beach!"

– **John Sousa, Airports**

John's comment: John, this will be a family picture that you will be remembered forever. There's nothing like getting your kids 'in action'! Thank you!

"I took these pictures using my cellphone. The City Hall picture was taken on New Year's Eve at an event called New Year's Eve LA. Happy New Year!"

– **Cecille Consebido, Public Works/Sanitation**

John's comment: City Hall looks awesome! I wish I had seen it in person. Thanks, Cecille!



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, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
- When you send digital photos through the Internet, **please send the full, original digital file yourself**, rather than using digital photo software like Kodak EasyShare, Kodak Gallery, Flickr, etc. These programs send very low-resolution images, and they don't look good in print.
- We want you to look your best, so send us the original digital file, please! Thanks!
- Digital photos optimally should be between 100K and 2 megabytes in size and may be e-mailed to: pictureperfect@cityemployeesclub.com
- The contest is all in good fun! The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.

Reviews by Fellow Club Members

ENTERTAINMENT

At the Movies

• *In the cinema*

American Hustle

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Con man (Christian Bale) and his girlfriend/partner (Amy Adams) are caught by an FBI agent (Bradley Cooper), who then forces them to pull off a bigger sting operation aimed at politicians and Mafia.

American Hustle is a comedy loosely drawn from the early 1980s government-bungled Abscam Operation. Despite good performances (Jennifer Lawrence and the others already mentioned), the film is overlong, and it becomes difficult to track who is conning whom. Nevertheless, the con games are entertaining enough to justify today's ticket prices, as long as you keep your expectations just a little low.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Saving Mr. Banks

Rated PG-13

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

You'll simply marvel at how great Emma Thompson and Tom Hanks are in their portrayals of children's author P.L. Travers and Walt Disney, respectively, in *Saving Mr. Banks*. Though most Disney "purists" will be quick to tell you that there are historical differences from the real story of Disney seeking to make Travers' Mary Poppins character into a film, if you are willing to let go of reality and let yourself get sucked in by the performances, sentimentality and overall enjoyability of the film, you are sure to leave the theater as astounded as I was with the film.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Saving Mr. Banks

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Disney does it again, producing a strong and moving film about the story behind the making of *Mary Poppins*. The magical character Mary Poppins was like a family member

to author P.L. Travers – the nanny's very existence born of Travers' tough childhood in Australia, her family's fall in circumstances and her creative imagination encouraged by her father. Emma Thompson is superb as the effectively sharp, but not entirely unsympathetic, Travers, who battles with Tom Hanks' well-meaning Walt Disney for the fate of her Mary Poppins on the big screen. Supporting cast members are excellent throughout, making for an engaging and moving story.

– Dearbhla McNulty, Club Wife

The Wolf of Wall Street

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

This movie is based on the true story of Jordan Belfort (Leonardo DiCaprio) and his rise to become a wealthy Wall Street stockbroker. There is a good two-hour movie in this three-hour Martin Scorsese film, which shows Belfort's enterprise and life, filled with corruption and crime, and his efforts to avoid federal investigation.

Despite excessively long and often pointless scenes of orgies and drug use, the performances of DiCaprio and Jonah Hill as his young acolyte are excellent, often funny, and memorable.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Philomena

Rated PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

A political journalist (Steve Coogan) writes the story of a woman (Judi Dench) who's searching for her son, who was taken away after she became pregnant and was forced to live in a convent in 1950s Ireland.

Philomena is easily one of the best movies of 2013, and because it is based on a true story, one of the more controversial. There are some scenes from which (I admit) I had to almost look away, but her determination to find the truth, with Coogan's help, is filled with hope and guts. Judi Dench is, of course, wonderful, inspiring, and very human.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Frozen

Rated PG

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Without a doubt, *Frozen* is one of the best Disney movies ever made. Not since the Renaissance of Disney animation that started with *The Little Mermaid* and ended with *Pocahontas* has a Disney film made me feel this good about everything in the film. (Pixar films not included in that previous statement.) *Frozen* is everything classic Disney fans could ever want from a Disney musical film and certainly is fun for the entire family. Personally, I found that the Elsa character has quickly become my new favorite Disney character... right behind Tinker Bell, that is.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Her

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Her is a sci-fi/fantasy of LA in the near future, with our lovely City looking wonderful and a working subway to the beach, but smog-gier than ever. Enter our hero, the moping and self-pitying Theodore (Joaquin Phoenix), who writes sappy personalized greeting cards for a living and pines for his lost love. He installs a new computer operating system (voiced by Scarlett Johansson) that soon becomes his surrogate virtual girlfriend and new love.

Her was written and directed by Spike Jonze, who almost makes weird seem normal. But a computer that pretends to be real soon becomes creepy and *almost* makes me want to toss away my new iPhone.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Her

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

The concept of people talking to their computer, and it talking back, goes back at least as far as *2001: A Space Odyssey*, and I'm sure a lot longer than that. So Spike Jonze's concept for *Her* isn't that novel, except that it probably goes a lot deeper. The movie is clever in taking the relationship to places I wouldn't have expected, but in watching it I focused more on it being a parable of our relationship

to technology rather than seeing it as just as a simple relationship movie, and so my reaction is more elusive. I'm encouraged that the main character, Theodore (Joaquin Phoenix), does seem to find, finally, real connection, but that's my conjecture.

Her is the kind of spare, elegant story – not unlike software itself – where 100 people might have 100 different opinions about it. It could have been set only in Los Angeles, but the city in the slight future looks great. I recommend *Her*, but I'm still not sure what it means.

– John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom

Rated PG-13

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom is a bit of a mixed bag. Telling the story of the life of the recently deceased South African leader and revolutionary, the film is a bit heavy-handed when it comes to letting the viewer know just how much Nelson Mandela went through in his life and struggle against apartheid in his home country. At the same time, Idris Elba delivers one of the best performances of the year, and his performance as the South African figure deserves all the praise in the world and is one to be remembered.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Grudge Match

Rated PG-13

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

While I normally pan movies with loose or unclear plots, sometimes the pure nostalgic feeling you get from seeing two great actors overrides a bit of that feeling. That is how I feel about *Grudge Match*, starring Sylvester Stallone and Robert De Niro as two aged boxers getting together for one last big fight against each other. Oh, the story is barely there, and barely cohesive, but watching the two stars as well as Kevin Hart try hard to make you love and laugh at them, really does a lot for the film. It's not for everyone, but fans of the stars should be rather entertained... though just barely.

– Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Theatre Reviews

The Steward of Christendom

Mark Taper Forum

Production closed

My Score: 3 (out of 5)

The great Irish-American actor Brian Dennehy was the reason to catch the long and very wordy *The Steward of Christendom* at the Mark Taper Forum, as he carried at least 90 percent of the dialog of this contemporary Irish play by Sebastian Barry. Rich but static, nothing much happened in the play, making it more of an acted biography than a real drama.

It helped to know a bit of relatively recent Irish history, about the bloody war of independence won by Catholic Ireland over Protestant Great Britain in the early parts of the 20th century. Dennehy played Thomas Dunne, a Catholic member of the Dublin police force who was loyal to the crown. The play, told in flashback, featured Dunne going in and out of lucidity as he remembered, or didn't, the strug-

gles of his compromised position. His endless monologues were evocative but ultimately too passive for me.

– John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

Motown the Musical

On Broadway

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

A "jukebox musical," *Motown the Musical* is a thoroughly entertaining reliving of the sound that defined a generation (as it is called) and features the re-creation of Berry Gordy's Motown Records label, with actors impersonating stars including Smoky Robinson, Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, and groups like the Supremes, the Temptations, the Four Tops, and more. While the backstory is thin, the music is the thing. And what a fine thing it is.

I saw it on Broadway in New York, but it is coming to Los Angeles in the spring of 2015. Don't miss it.

– Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks



Megan Recommends

Theatre recommended by Megan Evanich,
Customer Service Associate at the Club Store

Bright Colors and Bold Patterns

Vs. Theatre,
Pico at Fairfax
Through Feb. 7,
possibly extended

One of my friends, Drew Droege, has a hilarious show that is a must-see. *Bright Colors and Bold Patterns* was based on an invitation to a gay wedding in Palm Springs that said, "Please avoid wearing bright colors or bold patterns." Drew turned this invitation into a full-length show about Gerry, a loving yet overbearing gay man trying to wrap his head around



the concept of gay marriage. As Drew himself, said, "It's about one man's drunken hilarious heartbreaking crisis on the eve of a gay wedding in Palm Springs."

If you've seen *Prairieoke* or *Are You There God, It's Me, Karen Carpenter* or watched his "Chloe" videos online, then you've experienced Drew. If not, you are on for a good time!

Bright Colors and Bold Patterns will run through early February but is expected to extend and return again. It is directed by Molly Prather. Tickets are available at brownpapertickets.com.

Your Reviews!

You can be a reviewer! Have you just seen a great movie or DVD? Read a great book? Been to a great play or musical? Write a brief review. It's easy! See the instruction box.

100 Words or Fewer

Here's how to submit your review. *Alive!* accepts entertainment reviews of 100 words or fewer. We might not print them all, especially if we receive multiple reviews for the same movie, DVD or video game. Follow these rules:

- For movies: Make sure the movie is still in theatres. For and books, make sure they are generally available. For theatre shows: try to submit your review before the show closes.
- All reviews must be written by you (not taken from another source) and exclusive to *Alive!* (not offered to another outlet). Violations could end your ability to be published in *Alive!*
- Have fun!
- Keep all reviews to 100 words or fewer, but try to write more than one or two sentences.
- Your own comments are more important than a long plot summary.
- Give us your score on a scale of 1 to 5. Use this format: **My Score: X (out of 5)**.
- Make sure you give us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit your review to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.



SEEN Around Town

By Jennifer Shackelford
Club Application Coordinator

The Cozmic Cafe

I simply love to hear about old things getting reused in new and interesting ways. Take old mines for instance. Usually all they are good for is abandonment, unless they are located someplace interesting. Then you get your standard tour. But how about a nice sandwich and a local beer? When do you get those in a mine? You get it when you head over to The Cozmic Cafe in Placerville, CA. This natural food cafe opened up in 2003 in the beautiful and historic Pearson Soda Works Building. The soda works, as it currently stands, was built in 1859 by John Pearson.

He intentionally built it at the opening of an old mine shaft so that he could use the mine as a kind of natural refrigerator. Now, there are a couple of tables set back in the mine for a rather random, but interesting dining experience. The Pearson Soda Works building is on the National register of historic places, and the Cozmic Cafe is well worth a stop when you are in the area. Have a beer and enjoy the local artwork. **The Cozmic Cafe is located at 594 Main Street, Placerville, CA, 95667.**



THIS MONTH AT THE

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

A REC AND PARKS FACILITY

Salt Marsh Open House

Saturday,
February 22
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Join CMA Educators to learn about the Salinas de San Pedro wetlands habitat at Cabrillo Beach by using binoculars and microscopes to observe live animals. Visitors can view the birds of the marsh, learn about native plants and observe the changes in the tides.

Free and open to all!
Parking: \$2

Support the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium!

Consider joining the Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
(310) 548-7410
www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org/support.asp



www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org
City Owned. City Run. City Proud.

THANKS FOR YOUR PUBLIC SERVICE.



Thanks for being part of what makes California great. Get a discount on monthly service plans because of where you work.

This discount is available to all employees working at the State or Local level within the State of California.



Trade in your old phone from any carrier. Get account credit for eligible devices through the Sprint Buyback Program. Visit sprint.com/buyback for details.



18%

DISCOUNT FOR EMPLOYEES OF LA CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

Applies to select regularly priced Sprint monthly service plans. Req. new 2-yr agmt.

ACTIVATION FEE WAIVED FOR NEW ACTIVATIONS

Up to \$36 value. Req. new 2-yr agmt.

LA City: sprint.com/lacityemployees Visit local Sprint Store: sprint.com/storelocator
Utilities: sprint.com/californiapublicutilities State/Local/City/County of LA: GLSCA_WCA_ZZZ
LA County: sprint.com/lacountyemployees Utilities: UTSCA_WCA_ZZZ
State/Local: sprint.com/californialocalgovernment
Call: 866-639-8354

Use this code to claim your discount.
Corporate ID: See above for code



Sprint is an authorized wireless vendor for the State of California.

Activ. Fee: \$36/line. Credit approval req. Early Termination Fee (sprint.com/etf): After 14 days, up to \$350/line. Gov't Employee Discount: Available for eligible employees of gov't agencies participating in the discount program. Discounts subject to change according to the agency's agreement with Sprint and are available upon request for monthly svc charges on select plans. No discounts apply to second lines, Add-A-Phone lines or add-ons \$29.99 or less. Sprint Buyback: Limit of 3 returned devices per active mobile number during one 12 month period. Phone must be deactivated and all personal data deleted before recycling. Device will not be returned. Credit varies depending on phone condition and valuation. Credit applied to store purchase or account within 3 invoices. Also available at sprintbuyback.com. Other Terms: Sprint reserves the right to modify, extend or cancel offers at any time. Offers and coverage not available everywhere or for all phones/networks. Restrictions apply. Nationwide Sprint Network reaches over 283 million people. See store or sprint.com for details. ©2013 Sprint. All rights reserved. Sprint and the logo are trademarks of Sprint. Other marks are the property of their respective owners. N065466

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

Cooking with the Club

with Chef Robert Larios



SHRIMP AND SCALLOP CEVICHE

Ceviche: To some it is the best dish ever conceived. To others, they wouldn't touch it with a ten-foot pole. Who ever heard of cooking seafood with citric juices from limes or lemons, anyway? The ingredients are not cooked with heat, so it is definitely raw.

The origin of the dish is not known for certain, but there are historical records that indicate that it was invented in the Peruvian and Ecuadorian region by mixing *chicha* (the juice of maize). This area was previously part of the Incan Empire, which had vast access to fish and shellfish. When the Spaniards arrived, the use of limes, onions as well as other foods were incorporated. While this is a delicious dish and the recipe I have below is a very full in flavor that uses very fresh shrimp and scallops instead of fresh fish, I will caution that young children and seniors should use discretion when eating. Nonetheless, this is a great appetizer for your upcoming Valentine's Day dinner. Enjoy!

Chef Larios

Shrimp and Scallop Ceviche

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 jalapeño
- Half cup finely chopped cilantro
- 3 Roma tomatoes
- 1 medium sized cucumber
- Half cup finely chopped white onion
- 1 medium Haas avocado, diced in small cube
- Lime juice, freshly squeezed, enough to cover the surface of the bowl with the ingredients (approximately 10 limes)
- Salt and white pepper to taste
- Half pound bay scallops (70/120)*, raw and fresh, cut in half
- Half pound medium shrimp (41/50)*, raw and fresh, cut in thirds
- Bag of tortilla chips
- Mexican hot sauce

* If you've never ordered fresh seafood, here's what those numbers mean in the ingredients list above. Walk up to the person behind the counter and say, "I'd like a half-pound of the 70/120 scallops, and a half pound of the 41/50 shrimp." That should do it.

Cooking TIDBIT

Use tortilla chips that don't have extra flavors other than salt. You may also use tostadas, which can be found in most super-markets. If you have the time, you can even make your tortilla chips by cutting them and letting them cook in the deep fryer.

[A Cook's Dictionary]



Ceviche:

[she-VEE-chee; she-VEE-cheh; she-VEEH] – An appetizer popular in Latin America consisting of raw fish marinated in citrus (usually lime) juice. The action of the acid in the lime's juice "cooks" the fish, thereby firming the flesh and turning it opaque. Onions, tomatoes and green peppers are often added to the marinade. Only fresh fish should be used for this dish. Pompano, red snapper and sole are the fish most often selected for ceviche (which is also spelled sevicehe or cebiche).

© Barron's Educational Services, Inc. 2009 based on *The Food Lover's Companion*, 2007 by Sharon Tyler Herbst and Ron Herbst.

Food Fact

"An empty plate is always the cook's best compliment."

– Julia Child

DIRECTIONS:

Serves 2 – 4



1 Prepare your ingredients. Wash and dry the jalapeños, cucumber, tomatoes, cilantro, limes, shrimp and scallops.

2 Begin prepping the shrimp and scallops in a separate cutting board from the other ingredients. Put aside the avocado until step 3, when you will remove the avocado flesh and cube it with a knife.



3 Add all diced ingredients into a large bowl. This includes the shrimp and scallops as well. Then add salt and pepper. Lastly, add the juice of the limes. Mix gently with a wooden spoon. Make sure the lime juice covers the ingredients. If it does not, add more juice. Cover the bowl and place in the refrigerator for one to two hours.



4 Remove bowl from refrigerator, mix in cubed avocado, add on tortilla chips. Add a few drops of hot sauce as well. Plate and enjoy!

CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues
sponsored by the City Employees
Club of Los Angeles • Feb. 2014



Sign Up Mondays!

Stop by the Club Store on Mondays (8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) to sign up for any upcoming Club sports league!

- Club Soccer League
- Club Basketball League
- Club Softball League
- Running Club



Come meet Robert Larios, The Sports Dude

Sign Up for Basketball!

The previous Club basketball season was great fun!

The Club is excited to announce the next season for Club Basketball. The Club is accepting team rosters for the upcoming season, which starts in April and ends in June. Game times are typically 7, 8 and 9 p.m. at the Expo Center, 3980 Bill Robertson Lane, Los Angeles, CA 90037. Join the teams and fans as league champions DOT Outlaws defend their title.

Team registration fees are waived, but teams must plan to pay a \$40 referee fee for each week. All new players must be Club Members and agree to all regular Club Membership rules and regulations. Players who are not Club Members must join the Club to play in the Club Basketball League.

Some exceptions must be approved by the Club League Office. Time and space are extremely limited for the Club Basketball League. If the league is filled, names of players will be kept for the next league. Club Basketball league players must be current Club Members in good standing. Employees of any city, state and county agency in the State of California are welcome.

The Club also welcomes Club Sports Commissioner Lady Smith. Lady has been appointed to assist the Club in administering rules to all basketball teams and make sure the league is a safer, better and more fun. She will be seen regularly at the games.



Lady Smith

Lady Smith, such a treasure during the previous Club softball season, will be assisting the Club with basketball season duties.



Sign up now for the upcoming season!

For more details, please contact the Robert Larios at sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com or visit the Club Website at www.cityemployeesclub.com/LACEA/sports_basketball.aspx for forms and applications. You may also contact us at (800) 464-0452, ext. 134.

Global Rings

JEWELRY

We have all your fine jewelry needs!



Working with Employees from
LAPD, LAFD, City of LA,
County of LA

40% - 70% DISCOUNTS
to All Law Enforcement Personnel

Loose Diamonds Available in ALL sizes!

All diamonds are 100% natural, untreated and priced with integrity.

Demarco

Sold exclusively at Global Rings Jewelry



www.globalringsjewelry.com
SAFE & SECURE ONLINE ORDERING

PHONE: 1.888.774.GEMS / 213.623.3313
FAX: 213.623.1274

VISIT OUR STORE!

550 South Hill Street, Suite #920
Los Angeles, CA 90013

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members Marketplace

New Ads This Month!

2 Cemetery Plots: Side by side. Garden of Rest Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier. Easy access, near large oak trees. \$4,000 for both. Owner will pay transfer fees. Linda @ (949)322-7961. 2/14



1998 Yamaha XLT 600 Waverunner: \$2,500. Excellent condition. Must see! Summer will soon be here, don't miss out on this great deal! Jackie @ (626) 383-1708. 2/14



1967 Chevy Nova: 327 Cu in, Muncie 4-speed, Holley 650 carb, newer interior, carpets, stereo w/mp3, 2-tone paint. Red/silver + much more. \$21,000 OBO. Mike Lee @ (814) 390-6889. 2/14

2 Cemetery Plots: Side by side. Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA 90601, in the Garden of Affection; graves 1-2, Lot 4063; sale price \$7,900 OBO, + transfer fees for both. Rosie P. @ (323) 578-9236 between 1-7 pm. 2/14

Timeshare: San Diego rental from Jun 29 - Jul 6, 2014, Sun - Sun. 1BD/Queen in master, full sleeper sofa in living area. Max occupancy 4. Kitchen, a/c, rooftop sundeck, business center, fitness center, laundry room & lounge w/pool table. Only .25 miles from Balboa Park. No pets. Rent: \$1,000. Parking: \$20/day. Terry @ (818) 769-3382 for info & reservation. 2/14

House for Rent: In Apple Valley, 3 BD/2 BA, central heat, laundry hook-ups, unattach 2-car garage, tile & hardwood floors. \$1,250/mo. + security deposit: \$1,250. Additional depo for pet. Available 04/01/14. Ms. Adams @ (323) 360-4268. 2/14

Antique Armoire: Good condition, great craftsmanship. Dark wood finish. Measures approximately 78" H x 46" W x 26" deep. \$400. Jeffery Whitmore @ (323) 578-5707. 2/14

Weight Bench System: Classic Universal, 10 apparatuses in 1 system. Includes separate adjustable sit-up bench, good condition. \$350. Jeffery Whitmore @ (323) 578-5707. 2/14

Monopoly Game: Franklin Mint Collector's Edition! Maplewood display table; gold plated hotels; silver plated houses; specially printed monopoly money. Great gift idea. \$175. Jeffery Whitmore @ (323) 578-5707. 2/14

IPOD Touch: 32 GIG, brand new. \$80. Jeffery Whitmore @ (323) 578-5707. 2/14

Headboard: Leather King size, diamond pattern, excellent condition. \$150. Jeffery Whitmore @ (323) 578-5707. 2/14



1967 Ford Mustang: Coupe, project car, needs restoration, 289 V8 engine, auto trans, runs good, 2 brl dual exhaust, \$6,700 OBO. John @ (310) 977-4642 or e-mail: mybuddaes@aol.com 2/14

Easel: Aluminum construction. Comes w/a free pad of 3M paper. John @ (213) 448-4975. 2/14



Easel: Aluminum construction. Comes w/a free pad of 3M paper. John @ (213) 448-4975. 2/14



2008 Providence 40X Diesel RV: 360HP Cummings 8.3 L, 5-speed Allison transmission. 35,000 miles w/3 slide outs, 5-TVs, many upgrades. Reduced price \$130K. Mike White @ (661) 904-2234. 2/13

Cemetery Plots

Crypt Double Capacity: Tier 3, Inglewood Park cemetery in the Capistrano Gardens. \$8,500 OBO. Info @ dorisknott817@yahoo.com 12/13

2 Cemetery Plots: Rose Hill Memorial Park (Benevolence). Lot 1430, Graves 1 & 2. \$4,500 for both or \$2,300 a piece. Lincoln Lai @ (310) 542-9997. 10/13

Crypt Double Capacity: Inglewood Cemetery, Sunset Mission Mausoleum, Sanctuary of Grace, 243 double capacity crypt Tier-3. \$10,000. Dennis Carter @ (661) 433-1912. 8/13

1 Cemetery Plot: One space for 2. Oakdale Memorial Park, Glendora. \$3,300. Jose or Juanita @ (818) 799-3516. 8/13

2 Cemetery Plots: The Gardens Lot (354) in Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier. Graves 3 & 4 (side by side). \$4,800 for both or (1) \$2,500. Karen Hunter Hill @ (661) 317-5922. 6/13

4 Cemetery Plots: Side by side, Westminster Memorial Park, Garden of Devotion. \$3,000 ea; \$5,500 for 2; \$10,000 for 4, + transfer fee. Allene @ (310) 376-2006. 3/13

Furniture



Bedroom Set: Gently used, 8-piece whitewashed pine. Pieces include: twin bed, twin bunkie board, 3-drawer under bed, 6-drawer dresser, 4-drawer desk, hutch (for desk), desk chair & bookcase. Must see to appreciate. \$1,000 OBO. Nancy Cammarata @ (213) 216-3780. 10/13

Furniture: Solid oak dining table w/6 chairs, \$300 OBO. Oak finish coffee table & 1 end table \$45 OBO. Call after 4:30pm @ (909) 731-2762. 10/13



Estate Moving Sale: Assorted furniture including: Entertainment center, couch sets, chair sets, coffee & side tables. To schedule a viewing, call (909) 244-2469 or (909) 440-6364. 9/13



Roll Top Desk: looks like it could be over 100 years old. \$150 OBO. John @ (909) 593-5835. 9/13

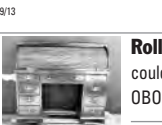


Table Set: Rattan & glass, in good condition w/4 chairs & pillows. \$350. Tanya, after 5pm @ (323) 778-8297. 7/13

Entertainment Center: Plummers, fits "32" TV. Good condition. \$100. Must pickup. Michael @ (310) 534-2181. 5/13

Custom Made Sofa: 7 feet, queen mattress, excellent condition, \$375 OBO. Nicole @ (310) 308-1523 or (323) 766-1876. 1/13

Homes/Rentals/Land



For Rent: 2BD/1 BA house in Fontana. Near 10 & 15 freeways. Good size back yard & walk in closet. 6 month lease. \$900/mo. + sec deposit \$900. Javier @ (909) 762-7941. 1/14

For Sale: 2 vacant lots in beautiful Lake Elizabeth. Approximately 1,500sf. total, street to street. Surveys have been done. New homes in the area. Seller is willing to carry a second note with 50% down in building your dream home. All utilities and lake nearby. \$39,000. Frances @ (805) 583-5321. 11/13

Room for Rent: Whittier, CA. 605 x 60 fwy; Xtra large room recently remodeled & furnished w/ queen bed, in-wall entertainment center. Includes use of laundry & kitchen facility, share full rest-room. No restriction street parking. Male roommate preferred. Avail: Dec 2013, \$700/ mo. Info: John @ (626) 757-5341 or jgonzlez@hotmail.com 10/13

For Rent: Lovely condo in LA/Westchester. 1 BD/1BA, kitchen, living room, dining room, 2-car garage. New paint, hardwood floors, stove, dishwasher, elevator, washer/dryer hookup, windows & fixtures. Very quiet. Close to public transportation. More details @ (310) 365-1868. 10/13

For Rent: 5 unit cozy apartment, 2BD/1 BA, 2-car garage/no pets. \$1,200/mo. + security deposit. 5347 Oakland St., 90032. Miranda @ (626) 422-1020. 10/13

For Rent OR Sale: Lancaster 2BD/1.5BA townhouse, 2 stories. Nice complex: small & clean w/pool, jacuzzi & tennis courts. Located near hospital, uspo, transportation, markets, stores, parks, schools & 14. New paint, flooring & newer kitchen cabinets. Half bath downstairs, full bath upstairs w/large round tub. Small interior patio, bar area, balcony, electric fireplace, attached 2-car garage. \$1,000/mo. Renting 1 year lease or more. No pets. App process, credit checks & docs required. OR for sale @ \$90,000. Info @ (323) 919-1163. 10/13

Household Items

Flat Screen LED TV: New Sharp Aquos Quattron 52" LED TV. \$1,200 at Best Buy, sacrifice for \$600. Hurry, won't last long at this price! Clarence Young @ (213) 725-3647. 1/14

Gym Equipment: Bowflex Blaze. Excellent condition w/ owner's manual & fitness guide. \$600. Will deliver in LA area. Jessalyn Pinder @ (323) 893-6570. 12/13



Engagement Ring: 3.83TCW carat w/wedding band. EGL certified, VVS2 clarity, H color. \$8,750 OBO. Certified appraised at \$15K! Size 5. Info @ (213) 507-0855. 11/13

Jeans: 12 pairs of used 511 Levi's jeans, \$200. Size 34 X 30, good condition. Owner lost over 50 lbs. Tina @ (323) 388-5204. 11/13

Hand & Power Tools: For remodeling home - call for additional info. George @ (818) 764-2091. 11/13

Shampooer/Vacuum: New Kirby cleaner. Shampooer used once, no other parts used. Paid \$1,400. Asking \$700 OBO. Robert Valdez: rvaldez95@roadrunner.com 9/13

Tools: Home repair tools, hand & power tools. Info @ (818) 764-2091. 7/13

Household Items: (All OBO) China Cabinet w/ matching table & chairs \$300; BD Dresser w/mirror \$150; Stand-up lamp \$25; Sofa & chair \$125. Steve/ Linda @ (818) 506-4024. 3/13

Miscellaneous

Train collectors dream! Lionel. Williams. Many NIB. All others are new & like new. From the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s & 90s. Hundreds of cars & engines available. Collector/Bulk purchases only. Michael @ (818) 489-8481. 12/13



Musical Items: Casiotone 401 keyboard. Includes foot pedal, instruction manual, cover, song books-\$100. Seth Thomas Metronome \$40. Library desk (shown) \$50. Photos available. Frances @ (310) 324-3117. 10/13

Beer Steins: From 1978-2002, \$25 each. Info @ (805) 477-2866. 9/13

Collector Comic Books: 1960s-1980s. \$2.50 each & up, discounts for purchasing complete sets - Spiderman, Fantastic Four, The Thing & many others. John @ (951) 203-4438. 8/13

Summer Sports Camp: Inglewood. Boys & Girls, 5-14 yrs. Basketball, baseball, softball, flag-football & more. \$75/week. Mention Swift Games & 1st week is \$50. Info @ (310) 641-4131. Sponsors: Top Prospects Baseball, Inc. & H.O.O.P. Foundation. 7/13

Photographic: Enlarger & other photo equipment items. Free! Ben @ (213) 484-2682. 7/13

Herald Examiner 1989: Final issue. Have 2 in excellent condition, \$500 OBO each. Info: phernandez1949@yahoo.com 5/13

Fender Squier Stratocaster: Plays great, white face. \$100 OBO. Info @ (626) 331-3547. 5/13

Shotgun: Late 1930's model Rizzini over an under 12ga shotgun must see to appreciate. \$1450 OBO. Russell @ (626) 331-3547. 4/13

Ovation Acoustic/Electric Guitar: Looks great w/no "bumps or bruises". Includes case, shoulder strap, digital clip-on tuner, picks & beginners book w/CD. Fresh "Elixir" Teflon strings installed, sounds great, very bright acoustic sound but electric pickup system needs to be fixed. \$200 OBO. Michael @ (818) 720-5198. 2/13

Examiner Newspaper: Last 1 ever printed \$500 OBO. Lauretta @ (323) 751-3203. 2/13

Travel/Timeshare

Timeshare: Orlando, FL: Marriott Lakeshore Reserve. 1BD/1BA villa, sleeps 4. Spa/golf privileges at JW Marriott & Ritz Carlton. June 28 - July 5, 2014. \$1,600. Jessalyn Pinder @ (323) 893-6570. 12/13



Palm Springs Condo: In beautiful Palm Springs Villas II, gated community, 7 swimming pools, tennis court, shuffle board; near shopping, restaurants & Casino Spa Resort. Weekly & weekend rentals, \$140 per night. Info @ (562) 301-2940. 5/13

Transport



Harley Davidson '07 Road King: Approx 39k miles, services up to date. Reduced price! \$11,900. Sapphire blue, locking cases, detachable windshield, studded black leather seat. Clean title, no drops/no TC's, excellent condition, 1 owner, always garaged. Sandra @ (323) 422-6019. 1/14



2004 Chevy Dually Crewcab: Diesel, 95,000 mi. \$16,000. Dirk Clark @ (818) 326-1076. 1/14



2002 Honda Odyssey EX-L: \$6,000, original owner. Very low miles. Text me @ (626) 905-5077 & I will send you more info & photos. 1/14



Motorcycle: 2005 Yamaha V Star, 1100 Classic Cruiser, 900 miles. Cobra pipes, saddlebags, Yamaha Windshield. \$5,600. Must sell because of health reasons. Ryan @ (661) 273-3766. 12/13

1965 El Camino: 496 inches. 871 blower, dyno 765 horsepower, 4 wheel power disc brakes, power steering, Ford 9 inch, munice m20 trans, airbags. \$30,000. D. Jackson @ (310) 628-3477. 11/13



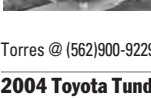
Pioneer RV 2003: Original owner, amazing condition. 30 ft. sleeps 8, 1 pop-out, AC, TV, DVD. Full bath, awning needs replacing. \$6,000 OBO. Kevin @ (626) 786-3078. 10/13



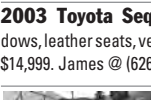
Sea-Doo: 2005 Bombardier GTX Supercharged w/pull trailer. Needs minor servicing; it's been sitting for a while. Michelle @ (951)-796-4565 & make an offer! 10/13



Coachmen RV 2005: Purchased in 06 in excellent condition. 27 ft. Sleeps 8-10. 2 pop-outs, AC, 2 awnings, full bath w/extra outdoor shower. \$15,500 OBO. Fernando Torres @ (562) 900-9229. 9/13



2004 Toyota Tundra: DBL CAB 4.6L V8. 224,000 miles. \$6,000 OBO. Paul @ (626) 991-5507. 9/13



2003 Toyota Sequoia: Limited. Power windows, leather seats, very low mileage, 37,000 miles. \$14,999. James @ (626) 919-5209. 9/13



2000 Ford Mustang: V6 convertible, \$4,200. 110,000 miles, automatic, new paint, no dents, clean interior, new headlamps w/hid, new cowl vents, rear spoiler, new chin spoiler, new tires w/brand new Ford oem 17" rims. No trades, cash only. Tags good till Jan 2014. Frank @ (323) 252-6011. 8/13

Tires & Rims: For original 2012 Ford F150. 6x135 Michelin P255 65 R17 LTX AS. Used for only 2,500 miles. \$400 firm. Johnny @ (323) 545-7007 between 5pm & 8:30pm. 8/13

2005 Harley Davidson Road Glide: W/dual backrests & detachable trunk. Lots of chrome & accessories, mileage 19,000. \$12,000 OBO. Theodore @ (661) 477-5896. 8/13



Harley Motorcycle: 1985 Super-glide. \$5,000. John @ (909) 593-5835 or japete43@gmail.com 7/13



2011 Chevy Silverado: Crew Cab LTZ, 22,500 miles. Warranty! Navigation, leather interior, heated bucket seats, loaded! \$31,900 OBO. Kelly @ (661) 733-2411. 5/13



Harley Helmet: Brand new, black. Sells in stores for \$300, selling for \$180 OBO. Info @ (213) 447-9838. 5/13

3-Wheel Moped: Blue, 2011, practically new, purchased for \$2,800. Selling for \$1,600. Frank @ (323) 240-3595. 5/13



2012 Camaro LS: Reduced price \$19,500! Xclnt condition inside & out. 12,000 mi, auto, 6-cycl silver w/blk racing stripe & blk steel whls. Robert @ (951) 334-3649. 5/13



'96 Camaro: Original owner, 105K miles. Major work done. Runs well. Needs minor touching up. New tires & belts. \$3,500 OBO, as is. Dave @ (424) 256-9018. 4/13

Tires & Wheels: 4 original 2011 Toyota Tundra wheels w/Michelin P255/70R18 tires. Used only 5000 miles. \$350 OBO. Ernie @ (310) 908-0433. 3/13

2006 Volvo: Flint gray, V50 SW. Sports package, fair cond & 138K highway miles. Valued btw \$6,500-\$8,800. Price negotiable. Denise @ (323) 697-8299. 2/13



1992 Mercury Grand Marquis LS: Good condition, low miles. "As Is". \$2,993. Alvin Williams @ (310) 764-4478. 2/13



Harley: Factory paint job; USB power commander & drag tuner; Freedom 2 into 1 exhaust; CNC ported heads w/forged pistons & adjustable push rods; S & S gear driven cams 258; 42mm injectors; green LED lights; 6 speed trans; chrome; progressive 440 shocks. All work done @ Harley dealership w/printouts. Many performance upgrades, 4,000 miles on engine build. Last dyno at 125hp 135ftq. 26,000 miles. \$16,500. Richard @ (805) 208-4406. 2/13

CLASSIFIED ADS

\$50
per month

FREE
for Club Members!

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

Email your ad (and picture) to **classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com** or you can fax your ad to (213) 620-0598

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

Classified Submission Deadline:

3/15/2014
for publication in the March issue of *Alive!*

Vacation Rental: Boulder City, located btwn Las Vegas & Lake Mead Recreation area. Cottage in Historic district: Sleeps 6, 1BD & queen sofa bed in lvng rm + 2 built-in bunk beds. Walking distance to restaurants, antique shops, etc. Built in 1942, previously owned by DWP. \$500/week or \$100/day. Norma @ (323) 333-2238 or e-mail: Norma2go2@gmail.com 4/13

Timeshare: Cancun Sunset Club, 1 week, studio sleeps 4, resort on the beach, \$700/week. Serious renters will receive all-inclusive meals. Not available New Years, July 4th, Thanksgiving or Christmas. Gina @ (818) 395-3552. 4/13

Timeshare For Sale: Ventura, CA. Ocean view. Deeded float week. Sleeps 4. Many amenities, incl elevator. 60 miles north of L.A. Elderly owner must sell. \$1,800. Leave message @ (503) 722-9881. 3/13



Vacation rental in Big Bear Lake: 3BD/2BA house located in the village of Big Bear Lake, CA, near the lake. Fully furnished. Contact John Long @ (909) 837-8347. 3/13

Timeshare: Kona Hawaiian Village, Big Island. 2BD/1 week anytime during the year, resort on the beach. Serious buyers. Info @ (310) 415-7388. 2/13

Wanted

Wanted: 1BD apartment in LA area for Senior Citizen (LA City Retiree)—no smoking, no drinking. Can pay up to \$800/mo. Curtis @ (702) 488-6525. 12/13

Rental Wanted: Active city retired couple looking for 2BD/2BA & parking for 2 cars. We can afford \$1500/mo. More info @ (310) 645-6527. 9/13

Apartment Wanted: Looking for place to live starting in October, within LA city limits. Senior citizen, 2BD apartment. From \$1,000 - \$1,400/mo. No smoking, no drinking. Ask for Mr. Walker @ (702) 488-6525. 8/13

Wanted: I buy all kinds of collectibles: crystal, Disney, fishing gear, military items, musical instruments, pocket knives, gold & silver, Radko, WDCC. Michael @ (626) 592-2929. 11/12

Wanted: Looking for a 2BD+, w/d hookup preferred, garage in San Pedro or within 5 miles. Maximum Rent \$1,100. Contact: a.townsend78@gmail.com 9/12

Club Member Discount Code: **LACITY**

LOV Olive Branches CDC and Stephen B. Steward present

One Night Only! — An Evening With
jonathanbutler

Special Appearance
Andrae Crouch

Introducing **Stephen B. Steward**

With Evening Host
Aundrae Russell

Saturday
april 12, 2014
Showtime 6:30 p.m

Ambassador Auditorium • 131 S. St. John Ave., Pasadena, CA
Preferred Tickets \$50 • GA Tickets \$25 • 12 and Under Tickets \$10
For Tickets, Sponsorship Opportunities or General Information
Contact: Sheila Gilmore 818-430-2182 sheila@lovolivebranchescdc.com
Onesha Steward (626) 298-5624 onesha@lovolivebranchescdc.com
www.stephenbsteward.com













discount tickets available at
LA City Employees Club

february
movie
releases

ONE CHANCE – 2/7
THE LEGO MOVIE – 2/7
THE MONUMENTS MEN – 2/7
ROBOCOP – 2/12
ENDLESS LOVE – 2/14
WINTER’S TALE – 2/14
ABOUT LAST NIGHT – 2/14
VAMPIRE ACADEMY – 2/14
POMPEII – 2/21
THE WIND RISES – 2/21
THREE DAYS TO KILL – 2/21
NON-STOP – 2/28
REPENTANCE – 2/28
SON OF GOD – 2/28
WELCOME TO YESTERDAY – 2/28



THE

Club Store

Prices effective for the month of February 2014.

To place an order visit us at:

WWW.CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM

Ordering online is fast and easy!

		RETAIL PRICE	CLUB PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL		
Theatre Tickets							
AMC							
Restricted Tickets	The following AMC Theaters will charge a \$2 surcharge for any show after 4pm: All AMC Burbank locations, AMC Century City 15, AMC Santa Anita 16. <i>*Surcharges are determined by AMC theaters and are subject to change without notice. The City Employees Club has no control over these changes.</i>	\$13.75	\$6.50	X	=\$		
Good Any Time		\$14.00	\$8.00	X	=\$		
Small Popcorn		\$5.50	\$3.00	X	=\$		
Small Drink		\$4.50	\$3.00	X	=\$		
Movie Bundle		\$42.00	\$25.00	X	=\$		
<i>Includes 2 unrestricted movie passes, 2 small drink concessions and 1 small popcorn concession.</i>							
California Science Center IMAX							
Adult		\$ 8.25	\$5.75	X	=\$		
Child		\$ 5.00	\$4.25	X	=\$		
Cinemark Theatres – Good Any Time							
<i>Rave Cinemas is now CINEMARK; Tickets honored at CINEMARK locations indefinitely.</i>		\$10.75	\$7.50	X	=\$		
Galaxy Theatres – Good Any Time							
		\$11.00	\$7.50	X	=\$		
Harkins Movie Theatres							
Restricted		\$10.00	\$6.00	X	=\$		
Good Any Time		\$10.00	\$7.50	X	=\$		
Krikorian Theatres – Good Any Time							
		\$12.00	\$7.50	X	=\$		
Laemmle Theatres – Good Any Time							
		\$11.00	\$6.00	X	=\$		
Landmark Theaters – Good Any Time							
<i>\$1.50 surcharge for use at West LA; \$2.50 for 3-D.</i>		\$13.00	\$8.00	X	=\$		
Pacific Theatres							
Restricted: \$2 surcharge for use at Grove, not valid at Arclight		\$13.75	\$6.00	X	=\$		
Gift Book: 2 unrestricted admissions, 2 medium drinks and 1 medium popcorn.		\$42.00	\$32.50	X	=\$		
Rave Motion Pictures “Rave 18” (Now part of CINEMARK)							
<i>Existing Rave Tickets will be honored at all CINEMARK locations indefinitely.</i>							
Regal/Edwards Cinema/United Artists							
Restricted		\$14.75	\$6.50	X	=\$		
Good Any Time		\$14.75	\$7.50	X	=\$		
Movie Pack: <i>includes 2 unrestricted ultimate movie tickets and a \$10 concessions gift card.</i>		\$30.00	\$25.00	X	=\$		
Regency Theatres – Good Any Time							
		\$11.50	\$7.00	X	=\$		
UltraStar Cinemas – Good Any Time							
		\$11.25	\$6.00	X	=\$		
<i>Tickets can be upgraded for 3-D, IMAX, or ETX.</i>							
Attraction Tickets							
Adventure City							
Adult/Child		\$14.95	\$10.50	X	=\$		
Aquarium of the Pacific <i>Expires 5/31/2014</i>							
Adult		\$28.95	\$17.95	X	=\$		
Child (3-11)		\$14.95	\$10.95	X	=\$		
Boomer’s Family Fun Centers							
All Day Pass		\$30.99	\$16.00	X	=\$		
Catalina <i>Expires 12/31/2014: not valid 5/25–27, 7/4–7, 8/31–9/2</i>							
Island Express – Round Trip	Adult	\$76.50	\$62.00	X	=\$		
	Child	\$61.00	\$52.50	X	=\$		
Davey’s Locker							
Whale Watching	Adult	\$32.00	\$21.00	X	=\$		
	Child	\$26.00	\$17.00	X	=\$		
Sportfishing – 1/2 Day	Adult	\$46.50	\$30.25	X	=\$		
	Child	\$39.00	\$25.75	X	=\$		
Sportfishing – 3/4 Day	Adult	\$71.00	\$56.25	X	=\$		
	Child	\$61.00	\$47.75	X	=\$		
Discovery Science Center <i>Expires 12/06/2014</i>							
Adult		\$15.95	\$12.00	X	=\$		
Child (3-11)		\$12.95	\$10.00	X	=\$		
Disneyland/California Adventure <i>Expires 12/31/2014</i>							
1-Day, 1-Park	Adult	\$92.00	\$88.32	X	=\$		
	Child (3-9)	\$86.00	\$82.56	X	=\$		
1-Day Park Hopper	Adult	\$137.00	\$125.36	X	=\$		
	Child (3-9)	\$131.00	\$119.87	X	=\$		
2-Day, 1-Park	Adult	\$175.00	\$162.75	Only available online through Club Website as E-Tickets. Please go to cityemployeesclub.com			
	Child (3-9)	\$162.00	\$150.66				
2-Day Park Hopper	Adult	\$210.00	\$189.00				
	Child (3-9)	\$197.00	\$177.30				
3-Day, 4-Day and 5-Day: 1-Park and Park Hoppers <i>Go to cityemployeesclub.com for details and prices.</i>							
SoCal Select Annual Passport		\$279.00	\$265.05				
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2014. Valid 170 days.</i>							
SoCal Annual Passport		\$359.00	\$341.05				
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2014. Valid 215 days.</i>							
Deluxe Annual Passport		\$499.00	\$474.05				
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2014. Valid 315 days.</i>							
Premium Annual Passport w/Parking		\$669.00	\$635.55				
<i>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2014. No blackout dates.</i>							
Golf N’ Stuff							
3 Hour Unlimited Wristband: Norwalk location		\$30.00	\$16.25			X	=\$
All Park Pass: Ventura location		\$20.00	\$15.25	X	=\$		
K1 Speed Racing							
Admit one, minimum height requirement 4’10” <i>This pass entitles the owner to one 14 Lap race and a annual license for the day.</i>		\$25.95	\$15.25	X	=\$		
Knott’s Berry Farm <i>Expires 12/31/2014</i>							
Adult		\$65.00	\$35.00	X	=\$		
Child (3-11); Senior (62+)		\$35.00	\$27.00	X	=\$		
LA Zoo							
Adult		\$17.00	\$13.00	X	=\$		
Child (2-12)		\$12.00	\$10.00	X	=\$		
Legoland <i>Expires 11/30/2014</i>							
Adult		\$83.00	\$67.00	X	=\$		
Child (3-11)		\$73.00	\$62.00	X	=\$		
<i>Comes with 2nd day free, to be used within 90 days of 1st visit.</i>							
Legoland Resort Hopper	Adult	\$107.00	\$72.00	X	=\$		
	Child (3-11)	\$97.00	\$67.00	X	=\$		
<i>Pass includes admission to Legoland, Sea Life Aquarium and the waterpark. Ticket comes with a 2nd day free, to be used before 12/31/2014.</i>							
Madame Tussauds Wax Attraction <i>Expires 12/31/2014</i>							
Adult		\$40.00	\$14.00	X	=\$		
Child (4-12)		\$35.00	\$11.00	X	=\$		

		RETAIL PRICE	CLUB PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Attraction Tickets, <i>continued</i>					
Magic Mountain <i>Expires 9/28/2014</i>					
General Admission (3 and up)		\$64.99	\$39.99	X	=\$
Medieval Times <i>Expires 12/31/2014; not valid 12/31/2014</i>					
Adult		\$57.95	\$43.50	X	=\$
Child (0-12)		\$35.95	\$31.50	X	=\$
Mulligan's Family Fun Center					
All Day Pass	Adult/Child	\$23.99	\$16.00	X	=\$
<i>Restrictions: Pass gives 1 Adult or Child unlimited use of Laser Tag, Miniature Golfing, Go-Karts/Speedway & the Rock Wall. This ticket is valid Friday, Saturday & Sunday, major holidays & everyday during the summer. Attractions vary per location. Certain height, weight, restrictions apply. This ticket is accepted at Mulligan Torrance, Murrieta, and Palmdale.</i>					
Gift Certificate		\$15.00	\$10.25	X	=\$
Pirates Dinner Adventure <i>Expires 11/30/2014</i>					
Adult		\$56.95	\$36.00	X	=\$
Child		\$37.95	\$27.50	X	=\$
Queen Mary					
Adult		\$24.95	\$20.25	X	=\$
Child (4-11)		\$21.95	\$12.25	X	=\$
San Diego Zoo & San Diego Safari Park					
Adult		\$46.00	\$37.50	X	=\$
Child (3-11)		\$36.00	\$29.50	X	=\$
2-Visit Pass	Adult	\$82.00	\$65.50	X	=\$
	Child (3-11)	\$64.00	\$51.25	X	=\$
<i>May be used for one visit at each park or 2 visits to the same park.</i>					
Santa Monica Pier & Pacific Park <i>Expires 1/5/2015</i>					
Unlimited Wristband		\$25.95	\$13.50	X	=\$
Sea World San Diego <i>Good through 2014 season</i>					
Adult	<i>Limited stock: only available in Club Store for \$59.</i>	\$84.00	\$64.00	X	=\$
Child (3-9)	<i>Limited stock: only available in Club Store for \$59.</i>	\$78.00	\$64.00	X	=\$
Fun Card	<i>Visit www.cityemployeesclub.com to order. Limited stock: only available in Club Store for \$66.</i>	\$84.00	\$73.00	X	=\$
Speedzone <i>Expires 4/25/2014</i>					
3 Hour Unlimited Pass	<i>Unlimited use of rides and Mini-golf.</i>	\$49.99	\$25.25	X	=\$
Universal Studios <i>Expires 1/31/2015</i>					
Buy 1-Day: get 2-Days free!	Adult/Child (under 48")	\$80.00	\$75.00	Only available online through Club Website as E-Tickets.	
<i>Visit www.cityemployeesclub.com to order.</i>					

Gift Certificates					
Honeybaked Ham					
\$25 Gift Card		\$25.00	\$22.50	X	=\$
See’s Candies					
Gift Certificate (1 lb.)		\$17.50	\$12.90	X	=\$

E-tickets Available

for Monterey Bay Aquarium & Discovery Science Center

Visit www.cityemployeesclub.com and click on Club Discounts



Shipping & Handling					
Tax (only applicable to all merchandise, not on tickets)		x	9%	=	\$
Tickets: First Class Mail w/ Delivery Confirmation		\$2.99	x	1	= \$
Tickets: Certified Mail (requires a Signature upon Delivery)		\$4.99	x	1	= \$
Tickets: Priority Mail (2-3 Days)		\$7.00	x	1	= \$
Hats, Watches, Clothing, etc. (all merchandise)		\$7.50	(any quantity)		= \$
SUBTOTAL					\$
Merchandise					
	SIZE	COLOR	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
ITEM:					= \$
ITEM:					= \$
ITEM:					= \$
TOTAL (please include shipping)					\$

To order by Credit Card visit us at

www.cityemployeesclub.com

To order by Phone:

Call (888) 777-1744

To order by Mail:

City Employees Club of Los Angeles,
120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Check or Money Order (please paper clip to order form)
Make checks payable to City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Member Information

Member’s name

Home Street Address

City

State

Zip

Home Phone

Work Phone

Club Member Number

• ALL TICKETS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. PRICES MAY CHANGE.

• DO NOT SEND CASH – ALL SALES ARE FINAL – NO REFUNDS.

• All checks and credit cards have to be issued by the member. Third party checks and credit cards will not be accepted.

• When visiting Club offices, only the first 15-minutes of parking will be validated.

• Tickets must be mailed to your home address.

• City Employees Club of Los Angeles cannot be held responsible for money or

tickets lost in the mail.

• For your convenience, the Club accepts VISA or MasterCard.

• **Maximum 12 tickets per event/ theatre/attraction per order.**

• Allow 3 to 7 days for delivery.

Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales
Angel's

Be Alive!

– Sunset Beach

Kayaking and Paddle Boarding

From left: Aden, Kathy and Angel Jr.



Angel Jr. is having fun.



Aden and Kathy return from a kayak ride.



From left: Angel Jr. and Aden are having lots of fun.



Here I am with Angel Jr. and Aden in front of the kayaks.



Aden loves his kayak.



Angel Jr. tries to stand up on the paddleboard.

Hello again, everybody!

For this month's feature, my family decided to change from our usual uphill hikes. These hikes exercise our lower body mostly, so this month we are going to change a bit and get an upper-body workout with some kayaking and paddle boarding. Has anyone ever gone kayaking or paddle boarding? It sounds like fun, right? There are a few places in Sunset Beach – close to Huntington Beach – that offer these fun activities. We tried both, and I have to say if you have good balance and are not afraid of a little water, you are going to enjoy both very much. Lots of fun in the sun!

Let's begin.

The Adventure: I love to hike, but I wanted to try something new. You don't have to climb a hill to get some good exercise, as kayaking and paddle boarding have many health benefits, too. The first is the reduction in mental stress; second, it helps with increased cardiovascular endurance; third, it improves your muscle tone; and finally it helps with balance and weight reduction. Wow! This is another great opportunity for keeping fit and enjoying the great outdoors. I will definitely go back and paddle board a few more times this year.

We rented from OEX Sunset Beach, but there are other rental outfits there, too.

My two boys both loved the paddleboard experience more than the kayaking. I recommend checking the weather before you go. If you can swim, try paddle boarding, but if you are not a good swimmer, please go with someone who is an experienced swimmer. Safety is always first.

These activities cost more than a free hike, but once in a while it won't break your bank. You can also just take your spouse or significant other without the kids. Being in the harbor is so relaxing you will spend two hours and ask yourself, where did the time go? Guess what, you just exercised for two hours. We had a lot of fun, and it was relaxing, too.

Don't forget to bring your camera and take plenty of photos and send them to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com. Bring water, snacks and maybe some sunscreen.

**As always, be safe and
Be Alive!,
Angel**

Sunset Beach Kayaking and Paddle Boarding

OEX Sunset Beach
16910 Pacific Coast Hwy • Sunset Beach, CA 90742

Featuring gorgeous harbor views of homes and yachts

Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day

Parking: Free

Cost: Kayaks for two are \$25 each for 2 hours.

Paddleboards are \$15 for the first hour and \$20 for two hours.

*Prices are subject to change

Directions: From Downtown Los Angeles take the I-5 south to the I-605, then merge to the I-405 south. Take the Seal Beach Boulevard exit, then continue until you reach the PCH. Turn left; the destination will be on your left.




FEBRUARY Member Special



\$14 Member \$18.20 Non-Member
iPad Tablet Case
Available in 3 colors



\$37 Member \$48 Non-Member
Vintage Canvas Backpack
Available in 4 colors



\$45 Member \$58.50 Non-Member
M-51 Engineers Bag
Available in 4 colors



\$18 Member \$24 Non-Member
Tech Bag
Available in 3 colors



\$49 Member \$63.70 Non-Member
Pathfinder Laptop Bag
Available in 2 colors



\$42 Member \$55 Non-Member
Vintage Explorer Bag
Available in 4 colors



\$13 Member \$17 Non-Member
Stainless Steel Travel Mug
Strong and Steady with easy twist cap



\$5 Member \$11 Non-Member
City Seal Cap with Script
Available in 4 colors



California Beanies

Multiple Styles and Colors to Choose From

\$8 - \$10 Member \$11 - \$14 Non-Member



\$45 Member \$58.50 Non-Member
City Seal Alpine Jacket
Available in 3 colors



\$36 Member \$42 Non-Member
City Seal Full Zip Hoodie
Available in 4 colors



\$14 Member \$20 Non-Member
City Classic Women T-Shirt
Available in 4 colors



\$10 Member \$14.40 Non-Member
City Seal Classic One Color
Available in Black and Navy



**More Cool Products at
CityEmployeesClub.com**



New Club Benefit



Now You Can Payroll Deduct Your Purchases!



The Club has joined forces with PayCheck Direct to bring you affordable shopping through the convenience of payroll deduction.

Buy brand name computers, appliances, TV's, electronics, and thousands of products through the ease of payroll deduction without any interest payments or fees.

PAYROLL DEDUCTED
No Interest & No Fees

**For More Information,
please contact:**

Arlene Herrero
(800) 464-0452 x 103
aherrero@cityemployeesclub.com

Member Eligibility:

1. You must be an active member of the Club in good standings with at least 6 months of payroll deduction.
2. You must be an active or retired City or DWP employee.
3. You must be 18 years of age.
4. You must not have any outstanding balances on previous purchase programs.

PayCheck Direct is currently not available to LA County, State of CA, or LAUSD Club members.

Enroll today at CityEmployeesClub.com