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# Alive!

## LOS ANGELES ZOO

# Winter Wonderland

John Lewis, Zoo  
Director, stands at  
the entrance to the  
L.A. Zoo.

City Christmas 2015

Popular L.A. Zoo Lights celebration  
expands for a shimmering second year.

— SEE PAGE 24

LA ZOO  
LIGHTS  
NOV 27—JAN 3



Alive! photo (main) by Summy Lam

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A Message From the CEO

Christmas Past  
Is a Present

by John Hawkins,  
President and CEO, The Club

The holidays can be very nostalgic – they can take us back to earlier times. Who doesn't remember terrific holiday times growing up with their families? I certainly do. It's instant nostalgia of the warmest, most meaningful kind.

Looking back is certainly true of this month's cover story, too, which takes us back – exactly one year!

Why so specific a time, you ask? *Alive!* is trying something new this year – we're reaching back to be able to bring you a great cover story.

It's a production thing. Here's the insider scoop: Monthly publications like *Alive!* have lead times that require us to begin working on a cover story six to eight weeks in advance, if not longer. That's usually fine, except for our December feature; with so many festive holiday events sponsored by the City happening, of course we want to focus on one. We love celebrating the City and the City Employees who produce them. Trouble is, the events aren't set up six to eight weeks ahead of Dec. 1. By the time the Zoo Lights, or skating in Pershing Square, or Victorian Christmas in Banning Museum, are set up, it's usually too late for our schedule. This holiday crunch has been a production challenge since *Alive!* began in its current form in 2003.



At the entrance to L.A. Zoo Lights are (from left) Club CEO John Hawkins and Zoo Director John Lewis.

So last year, we did some strategizing. We saw clearly that the Zoo Lights holiday event was strong and was going to exist for many years to come ... or at least until 2015! – and we went ahead and produced most of the story last year. Of course we updated it with new details for this year. Thanks go to **John Lewis** and **Laura Stegman** at the Zoo for helping us pull it off.

And now you're in on the secret.

What's not nearly so secret is how many truly awesome holiday events the City produces every year. Many are focused on Christmas itself, but all are broadly imagined enough to welcome people of all persuasions. Parades ... decorated museums ... centuries-old religious traditions ... skating festivals ... boat parades ... it's all there for you and your family, courtesy the City of Los Angeles. So take advantage!

Don't forget that the amazing Club discounts can help make your holiday affordable. Once again, **Mariana Guevara** and the Club Store crew have put together great Club Holiday Specials on gifts, See's Candies, Honey Baked Hams, and my favorite stocking stuffers, the Club-exclusive holiday ticket packs. Everyone at the Club works especially hard this time of year to be of service to Club Members, so stop by and say hello.

Please keep in mind those less fortunate, too. This year, we've teamed up with the LAPD Newton Area to collect new shoes for those who can really use them. Drop them off at the Club Store. Or you can donate to Club Angels, the Club's official charity. We'll use your donations to help those in need living on the streets downtown.

I want to take a moment to congratulate my excellent colleague and friend, the Club's own **Robert Larios**, for earning his new position as Chief Operating Officer of the Club. Robert's hard work and dedication to great customer service are well known to many of our Members. Robert's well deserving of his promotion, and the Club will be even better served because of it. Well done, Robert!

Our cover story this month might be about Christmas Past in a funny sort of way. But seriously I plan on making new memories this Christmas season that my family and I will remember the rest of our lives. How about you?

From my wife, **Kelley Hawkins**, and me, and from everyone here at the Club, we wish you a joyful Christmas and Happy Hanukkah. Let's slow down and enjoy our time with our loved ones. It's the greatest gift we can give them.

—JOHN



[jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com)



For great holiday gifts,  
visit the Club Store!

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SEE PAGE 22 for Holiday Hours



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Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing (right), photographs Zoo Director John Lewis (left) and Club CEO John Hawkins in the Zoo's entrance plaza.



*Alive!* Cover



IMPORTANT Telephone Numbers

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

City Bureau of Sanitation Bulky Item Pick-up & Recycling	(800) 773-2489
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) 367-1692
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

Total claims paid to Club Members in the last 12 months:

\$3,961,135

Club Members' Praise

"The Club's claims service was very good. When I called to let them know that my husband had died, Monica Zamudio was very compassionate with me. She had compassion about my loss. She told me how much the check would be and then she called back to let me know when she was sending out the check and stated how sorrowful she was for my loss. I loved the book [The Fall of Freddie the Leaf] – it lifted my spirit at this time of sorrow. Thank you."  
– Dollie Guidry, January 2015

The Club's claims service "was excellent. Clear directions were given. I would encourage everyone to have a policy. Thank you very much. The association was extremely professional and personal at the same time."  
– Diana Lemon, January 2015

The Club's claims service "was very greatly appreciated. It was nice being able to get the assistance from a friendly person rather than someone who may sound like they are unhappy with their job."  
– Sara Marie Landerville, September 2015

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Previous 12 Months

Life Insurance	\$1,387,380.85
Long-Term Disability	\$1,558,444.69
Long-Term Care	\$765,310.16
Cancer Insurance	\$250,000

Total claims paid to Club Members in the last 12 months:

\$3,961,135.70



Cecilia Talbot, Director of Claims, Member Advocate



Monica Zamudio, Claims Coordinator

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.

December 2015 • Volume 14 – No. 12

Alive!

Alive! is the official publication of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles

120 West 2nd Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Alive! (USPS P7960) 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.

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Meet the Club Team

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

Team Leaders



John Hawkins  
President & CEO



Brian Trent  
Chief Financial Officer



Robert Larios  
Chief Operating Officer,  
"Sports Dude", "Chef Larios"  
and "Discount King"

2003 President's Award Recipient



Arlene Herrero  
Director of Product Development

Accounting



Leigh Thompson  
Controller



Carole Lavato  
Assistant Controller



Trinh Pham  
Senior Accountant

2011 President's Award Recipient

2005 President's Award Recipient



Summy Lam  
Director of Marketing

Claims

2004 President's Award Recipient



Cecilia Talbot  
Director of Claims,  
Member Advocate

2010 President's Award Recipient



Monica Zamudio  
Claims Coordinator

Data Processing



Hava Berman  
Project Administrator



Rebecca Platero  
Data Processing Coordinator

Information Technology

2014 President's Award Recipient



Michael Anderson  
Information Technology Manager

2007 President's Award Recipient



Alan Bound  
Business Analyst



John Kaveh  
Senior Software Engineer

Member Services



Gedina Bergstrom  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 107

Accounting  
CDD  
City Attorney  
City Clerk  
Contract Admin.  
DOT  
Fire  
Harbor  
Housing  
Library  
Personnel  
Planning  
Water (DWP)



Dalila Vielma  
Member Services Counselor  
Ext. 137

Aging  
Animal Services  
Building & Safety  
Bureau of Engineering  
City Council  
Controller's Office  
Cultural Affairs  
Environmental Affairs  
Fire & Police Pensions  
ITA  
LAPD  
Mayor  
Neighborhood Empowerment  
Power (DWP)  
Zoo



2008 President's Award Recipient  
2013 "Absolutely" Award Recipient  
Angel Gomez  
Director of Sales  
Ext. 104

CAO  
Chief Legislature  
El Pueblo/Disability Dept.  
Employee Relations  
Board  
Finance  
GSD  
LA Memorial Coliseum  
LAX  
Rec & Parks  
Sanitation  
Status of Women  
Street Lighting  
Street Services



Noelle Kauffman  
Member Services Coordinator  
Ext. 105



Jeanette Gadut  
Member Services Counselor

Email us at:  
info@cityemployeesclub.com

if you have an event you want covered in the Alive! or if you have questions about insurance. Or call us at (800) 464-0452

Club Store

2014 Club Team Excellence Award



Mariana Guevara  
Club Store Manager

2013 "Absolutely" Award Recipient



Megan DeBolt  
Club Store Assistant Manager



MaryAnn Urdiales  
Customer Service Associate



Guadalupe Lira  
Customer Service Associate



Tiffany Sy  
Member Services Counselor, In-house  
Ext. 202

City Employees Retirement System  
DWP Retirement Office  
Fire and Police Pensions

Enrollment Team



Lucas Everett  
Member Services Counselor



Steven Lambert  
Member Services Counselor



Scott Sulak  
Member Services Counselor



Charlotte Swanberg  
Member Services Counselor



Sheldon Sklar  
Member Services Counselor



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

# Letters to the Editor

## 'Tis the Season for a Great Club Deal on See's Candies

This is the time of the year that makes me feel joyful because I can now buy my See's Candies certificates by the dozens for family and friends from the Club. On top of that, the Club sells them to members for \$13.50! That is the best price I have seen anywhere. Then I got my November edition of the newspaper to find out that there is a coupon for \$5 off for every \$25 spent at any See's Candies Stores. This is an extra special year of savings for us all! Thank you and Happy Holidays!

– Jack Mendez, Rec and Parks

## Club Celebrates City Employees, And Protects In Tough Times

It is shocking, in a good way, that the Club protects and provides for employees and their families when they are sick, injured or worst of all, pass away. It hits me strongly to see how many claims the Club pays, which was almost \$3.9 million this year. It is such a sad thing to know that employees are sick, injured and die but a the same time comforting to know that the Club is there and stands by to support us during the hardest of times. Thank you.

– Melinda Jackson, DWP

## Fun and Camaraderie – All-Star Game Knocks It Out of the Park

For those of you who missed the Club Softball League's All-Star games, you missed a terrific night! There was electricity, respect, competitiveness and warm family atmosphere that I have not felt before in such a concentrated way. There was music, food, giveaways and newspaper coverage. It just felt professional and we all appreciated it. What a terrific memory of my time with the City. Thank you, Robert Larios and Lady Smith, for making it a wonderful night.

– Tony Lopez, General Services

## Correction

In last month's "Retirees Around the World" feature, we misspelled the last name of Mo and Leslie Mirseyedi. We apologize for our mistake, and we reprint the entry here in its entirety. – Ed.

### Hawaii

Mo and Leslie Mirseyedi, Retired, DWP, report from Hawaii.

"Aloha from the Big Island of Hawaii. We retired from the DWP on May 1, 2012. Since then, we've purchased a nice beachfront condo in Hilo, Hawaii, where we stay six months of the year, spending our retirement time snorkeling, swimming, site-seeing on the Big Island, and exploring the other nearby islands."

"Mahalo."



## Brown Family Shows Plight of the Shelterless in the City

I was never more touched by a story than the one by the "People We See" story in the November newspaper about the Brown family. Club Angels is truly a program for the City and the employees. Thank you for all that you do and will continue to do for this worthy cause.

– Sandra Wilmington, Rec and Parks

## Club's Awesome Office Depot Deal Keeps Ringing Up Savings

The Office Depot discount program is awesome! My bill at the store cash register was \$143.55, but once I swiped my linked credit card, it re-totaled to \$119.77. Savings with the Club is outstanding! I can't wait to try it again. Actually, I need to buy ink cartridges!

– Laura Thompson, LAFD

## 'The City Parties' Shows City at its Holiday Best

I can't wait to see all the holiday parties in the next edition of the newspaper! It is always a joy to see the happy faces of employees and their families from all the City departments. What a wonderful time of the year this is, and we are all excited in my household for it.

– Melanie Geiger, Retired

## Robert's Question of the Month

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Chief Operating Officer  
[rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com)



Fellow Club members answer the Question of the Month

## "What's your favorite holiday movie?"



"None other than *It's A Wonderful Life*."

– Armando Nunez II, Budget Analyst, Club Rep and Member, Mayor's Office, 9 years of City service (with Robert Larios, Club COO (right)).



"*Frosty the Snowman* still beats strong in this youngster's heart! And of course, *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, a must-see ... no matter that we've seen it a gazillion times!"

– Maurice Hyett, Supervisor II, Construction and Maintenance, General Services Construction Forces, 27 years of City service, Club Member



"Nothing like watching *The Holiday*."

– Catalina Alvarado, Sr. Detention Officer, Club Rep and Member, LAPD/Airports, 15 years of City service (left)



"That's easy: *Frosty the Snowman*!"

– Kenny Rodriguez, Detention Officer, LAPD, 9 years of City service, Club Member



"*The Year Without a Santa Claus*."

– Lady Smith, Club Rep, Club Sports Commissioner and Member; Management Analyst II, Fire and Police Pensions, 27 years of City service



"*The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*. It's creatively animated and entertaining and brings out the true meaning of Christmas. Jim Carrey was perfect."

– Lisa Pallares, Club Rep and Member, Sergeant, Transportation, 16 years of City service



"We are just addicted to *Nacho Libre*. It's not exactly traditional, but it's our favorite."

– Jordan Price, Club Rep and Member, Instrument Mechanic, Public Works/Sanitation, 20 years of City service



"*A Christmas Story*! 'You'll shoot your eye out' – classic."

– Angel Vidales, Lead Security Officer, DWP, 18 years of City service, Club Member



"*The Twilight Zone* marathon. My second favorite: *A Christmas Story*."

– Tara Miller, LACERS Well Program Manager, LACERS, 2 years of City service, Club Member



"*Prancer* – it is about innocence and a time of imagination for children."

– Mary Beetz, Alive! columnist, Retired, Personnel, 38 years of City service, Club Member



"*Home Alone*!"

– Oscar Berumen, Police Service Representative, 14 years of City service, Club Member



"There is nothing like watching the *Godfather Trilogy* this time of year!"

– Carlos Rodriguez, Transportation Engineering Associate II, Transportation, 18 years of City service

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The United Agencies reps are appearing at the Club Store on select Thursdays.

Dec. 3

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Rosa Calderon

Dec. 10

8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Patty Pulido

Dec. 17

8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Rosa Calderon

**Note:** The Club Store will close at 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 24, for Christmas Eve, and Dec. 31 for New Year's Eve. The Club Store will be closed Friday, Dec. 25, for Christmas, and Friday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day.



Patty Pulido  
Personal Insurance Agent



Rosa Calderon  
Personal Insurance Agent





Pup Sergio paraded as a gladiator. Owner: Tiffany Butcher.



Pup Chance  
paraded  
as a taco.  
Owner: Heidi  
Huebner,  
Airports.

# Doggone Halloween

## New PUP program at LAX dresses up its dogs for holiday.

Each volunteer goes through LAX classroom and in-terminal training to learn about LAX and how to assist passengers. They also complete a walk-through with their dog to make sure there is a good fit for both volunteer and dog. In addition, handlers are fingerprinted and badged. Each dog and handler works one weekly shift of one to two hours at one assigned terminal.

**For more information please contact Heidi Huebner, Director of Volunteers, at (424) 646-8471 or [hhuebner@lawa.org](mailto:hhuebner@lawa.org)**

Story courtesy Heidi Huebner, Airports  
Photos courtesy Heidi Huebner and Tiffany Butcher, and Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales



Pup Sparky paraded as a pirate. Owner: Sophie Kondo.



1 Pups Tru and Gromit, dressed as chefs, paraded in a cart. Owners: Kathy and Lanny Goodwin



Participants in the PUP Halloween parade, from left: David and Jill Morse, with pup Oliver; Judy Woolsey and pup Molly; Christine Fields and pup Vegas; Eileen Nugent and pup Nigel; Lanny and Kathy Goodwin and pups Tru and Gromit; (kneeling) Tiffany Butcher and pup Sergio; Ginny Mills and pup Baylee; Adine Forman and pup Meyer; (kneeling) Sophie and pup Sparky; Susan Roth, Airports staffer; (kneeling) Marwick Kane and pup Delilah; BJ Stein and pup Shiloh; Corky Tenney, VIP; and (kneeling) Heidi Huebner with pup Chance.



Pup Vegas paraded as a cheerleader with owner Christine Fields



PUP dogs in regular dress, from left: Eileen Nugent and pup Nigel; David Morse and pup Oliver; Heidi Huebner, Director of Volunteers/PUPS, Airports, with pup Chance; Ralph Morones, Airport Manager, Club Member; and Monique Pancake and pup Mojo.

CLUB MEMBERS:

# Be My CLUB

# Valentine

Send your loved one a special Valentine...  
to be printed in the February *Alive!*

*Here's how it works:*

Send us a favorite photo (high-resolution digital preferred) of you and your loved one(s) (could be a romantic partner, a parent or child, etc.) and two or three sentences declaring your special bond.

*Deadline: January 12*



**Send digital photos and your message to:**  
talkback@cityemployeesclub.com  
(subject line: Valentine)

**Send paper photos and your message to:**  
City Employees Club: Be My Club Valentine  
120 W. Second St., Los Angeles, CA 90012







# Featured Club Businesses

Get your business in front of 30,000 City Employees and their families.  
The Alive! newspaper is mailed to over 30,000 recipients each month throughout Los Angeles and beyond. The Alive! is also viewable digitally from all over the world. If you would like to feature your business below or anywhere else in the Alive!, contact Summy Lam, Director of Marketing, at [AdSales@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:AdSales@cityemployeesclub.com)

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Rec and Parks

# Goodbye to Gardener George

George Gonzalez retires after a 43-year City career.



George Gonzalez, Retiree.

A retirement celebration took place Sep. 30 for George Gonzalez, Park Maintenance Lead Sr. Gardener, Rec and Parks, who leaves the City with 43 years of service. In attendance at the celebration were coworkers, family, friends and tacos catered by Iguala Guerrero. The event was held at the Hazard Armory Maintenance Yard on San Pablo Street.

George Gonzalez began his City employment in 1972 with the Department of Forestry. After two years he earned a position as a Gardener Caretaker at Hansen Dam. Ten years later he was promoted to Sr. Gardener and was assigned to the North Hollywood District in the Valley Region. He transferred to the Civic Center Downtown District and was promoted again to Lead Sr. Gardener in 1995 for the Arroyo Seco District of the Metro Region, for another two years. George then was assigned to the Lincoln Park District as Lead Sr. for 15 years. His final assignment returned him to the Hollenbeck District Park Maintenance as the Lead Sr. Gardener.

During his 43 years of service, George was able to mentor many part-time employees and was always willing to give his time and attention to assist others.

George officially retired Oct. 3. He enjoys running, cycling and training for marathons. He maintains a healthy perspective on life and continues to be active and volunteers at his church.

*The Club congratulates George on his great career!*



George Gonzalez, Retiree, with his wife, Melinda; daughter, Ciara; and son, Phillip.



Left to Right: Bill Lopez, Rafael Cruz, Roberto Inocencio, Rosalinda Garcia, Abel Perez, and George Gonzalez and guest.



From left: Henry Valdez, Jesus Flores, Louie Lopez and Ramiro Gonzalez.



From left: George Gonzalez, Peggy Kelly, Bill Lopez, Linda Coscarelli, Martin Hernandez, Robert Baxter, Eloise Wickham, John Salaises, Steve Lane, Eddie Sevilla and Allen Eaglin.



From left: George Gonzalez, Martina Ruiz, Rosie Garcia and Dan O'Grady.



From left: Margarita Rendon, guest, Aricelli Hernandez, George Gonzalez, Irma, Steve Cohen and Miguel Uribe.



From left: Ray Castro and George Gonzalez.



From left: Adrian, George Gonzalez and Pedro Serrano.



The City of LA Metro Region 1995 with George Gonzalez, Ray Castro, Rosie Garcia, Linda Coscarelli and Allen Eaglin.





# Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



1

## Pisa



"Hello City Employees Club. My husband, David Williams, and I went on a Mediterranean cruise, and are shown here at the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy."

— Tiffany Burke-Williams, FMP, Airports

2

## Iceland



Here's Officer **Doug Scarborough, Airport Police**, in Iceland. (Doug is the Club Member who previously took *Alive!* to the top of Mt. Everest.)

3

## Lone Pine



Here's **Armando Nunez, Mayor's office**, atop Mt. Whitney.

"On Sept. 16 at 2:15 a.m., my wife, Jenny; sister, Amber; and I left Whitney Portal, elevation 8,360 feet. At 10:15 a.m. we reached the summit, 14,505 feet. It was 32 degrees, but with wind-chill factor it was 18 degrees Fahrenheit.

"We left at 10:50 a.m. (after pictures) and returned to Whitney Portal at 5:15 p.m."

4

## Barcelona



"I'm just back from a quick trip to Spain," says **Michael Barnes, Harbor**.

"To escapee from California's sudden heat wave and celebrate my birthday, I decided to take my wife, Rebecca, on a spur-of-the moment trip to Barcelona, with a small detour via Munchen (Munich) for a beer or two, of course.

"As a young sailor I crewed many luxury yachts that passed through the Port of Barcelona, but never seemed to get any further inland than the nearest bar, so I missed the opportunity to explore this wonderful city. The secret to exploring Barcelona is to get up early and book your tickets in advance. Be at the museum or site just before it opens – this way you are guaranteed at least one hour free to enjoy the place before the coachloads of passengers from the cruise ships arrive. Always walk everywhere; this way you will discover new and exciting restaurants and tapas bars. Do not go into an eating facility that advertises hamburgers and fries – you are in Spain, so be bold and try something new.

"Although the public transport is good, you see nothing traveling on the underground. Strolling in Las Ramblas, you run the risk of bumping into a pickpocket or two. After a full day of adventures, just grab a cab – they are cheap and fast. Be an adventurer, not a tourist. Check out Rubi's Bar with its 50 kinds of gins (Spain is the third highest gin-drinking country in the world) or find the old hole-in-the-wall restaurant, La Cova Fumada (it closes at 3 p.m.) with its incredible homemade garlic mayonnaise, which is slathered on huge slices of grilled bread, and its bombas and fried artichokes that are to die for, all washed down with a carafe or two of house red wine.

"Last and not least, find, if you can, Can Paixano. This is a cava bar (Champagne), and they not only make and sell their own cava, but they make the best jamon and Roquefort cheese sandwich in town. The cava comes in different grades, and you can buy it by the glass or by the bottle. Note: No beer, cocktails, coffee, tea or tourists served. Great bar."

5

## Caribbean



**William Flowers, Airport Maintenance Supervisor III**, took a trip to the U.S. and British Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

Photo #1 - St. Thomas, U.S.V.I.

Photo#2 - St. Kitts.

Photo #3 - St. Lucia.

Photo #4 - Grenada, British Virgin Islands.

Photo #5 - Puerto Rico.

6

## China



**Isaiah Hawkins**, son of Club CEO John and Kelley Hawkins, made his first visit to China in October. Accompanied by Club staff members, he visited Beijing, Xi'an and Shanghai.

Good going, Isaiah!

1) Isaiah Hawkins on the Great Wall of China.

2) At the Temple of Heaven pagoda in Xi'an.

3) Visiting the Terracotta Warriors and Horses site in Xi'an were, from left: Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor; Daniel Wang; Arlene Herrero, Club Director of Product Development; Isaiah Hawkins; and Brian Trent, Club CFO.

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**LAFD**



# Honoring Service

## Annual Fire Marshal Awards honor LAFD employees for their service.

The Fire Dept. held its 11th annual Fire Marshal Recognition of Excellence award ceremony Oct. 7 in the Fire Commission Room in City Hall.

These awards are presented to recognize Fire Prevention members who have distinguished themselves by their consistency, contributions and dedication to the Fire Prevention Bureau, the Department and the public. Honors were awarded by Dep. Chief and Fire Marshal John Vidovich.

Nominees were submitted by fellow employees of the Fire Prevention Bureau. This year's winners were selected by last year's winners.

The Club thanks Renee Ramirez and Leticia Gonzalez for their assistance.

**Congratulations to all those receiving recognition!**



**2015 Recognition of Excellence Award recipients:**

Capt. Duc Nguyen\*  
Carlos Morel, Inspector  
Leticia Gonzalez, civilian

*\*Capt. Nguyen was unable to attend the ceremony.*



**Service Pin recipients:**

Winners of service pins were also recognized at the ceremony. They are:

**30-Year Service Pin:**

Susie Adamian  
Veronica Jaimez

**25-Year Service Pin:**

Deborah Moreno\*  
Gabriela Padilla  
Marcus Look  
Renee Ramirez

**20-Year Service Pin:**

Sandra Guerrero  
Rosa Ronquillo

**15-Year Service Pin:**

Eva Bencomo  
Cassandra Guerra

**10-Year Service Pin:**

Elva Davila\*  
Eloy Luna\*

\*Not pictured.



**Special Recognition recipients:**

Yvonne Lee  
Jonathan Wong





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Winner  
5 & under  
YEARS OLD

**Megan Dormani, 5**


BIRTHDAY: August 16 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Shimmer & Shine"  
FAVORITE SNACK: Spaghetti with Cheese • BEST FRIEND: Eliana  
WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC?  
I want to see the fish! • PARENT: Farhad Dormani,  
New Business and Design Engineer



Winner  
6 to 7  
YEARS OLD

**Rebecca Wamsley, 7**


BIRTHDAY: March 9 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Magic School Bus"  
FAVORITE SNACK: Yogurt • BEST FRIEND: Ashley  
• WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC? I  
want to see sea animals and take my little brother.  
• PARENT: Steve Wamsley, Electrician, Rec & Parks.



Winner  
8 to 10  
YEARS OLD

**Nashyra Hollier, 10**

BIRTHDAY: January 26 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Scream Queens"  
FAVORITE SNACK: Hot Cheetos Puffs • BEST FRIEND: Emily • WHY  
DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC? I've never been  
to an aquarium and I'd like to go. • PARENT: Phyllis Hollier, CSR/ DWP



Winner  
11 to 13  
YEARS OLD

**Gregory Hernandez, 11**

• BIRTHDAY: December 17 • FAVORITE TV SHOW: "Teen Titans Go"  
• FAVORITE SNACK: Buffalo Wings • BEST FRIEND: Chris  
• WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC?  
...I like seeing the colors, fins, and tails! • PARENT: Mark Hernandez,  
Senior Electrical Mechanic

# Coloring with Mariana!



Compiled by  
Mariana Guevara,  
Club Store Manager

The *Alive!* Children's Coloring Contest

**Congratulations to the  
WINNERS!  
of our Club Coloring Contest!**

Look for our next contest  
in the January edition of  
*Alive!*

Everyone who turned in a design is  
a winner in our opinion! But our top  
four participants win 4 Free Tickets  
to The Aquarium of the Pacific!

## Honorable Mention

CHILD	AGE	PARENT/GUARDIAN	DEPT.
Emma Tiet	3	Than Tiet	DWP
Christian Adame	4	Kara Adame	LAPD
Abigail Kuzichev	4	Alfred Kuzichev	LAFD
Helen Morrison	4	Ashley Morrison	
Milo Parish	4	El Wold	DWP
Joshua Aguirre	5	Robert Aguirre	DWP
Lorenzo Alvarado	5	Carlos Alvarado Chavez	DWP
Sophia Aubin	5	Michael Aubin	DWP
Kaleb Davis	5	Neeley Carter	Retired
Gemma Herbert	5	David Aguirre	LAPD
Diego Bracamontes	6	Diego Bracamontes	LAPD
Scarlett Esparza	6	Trinidad Quiroz	LAPD
Matthew Lansang	6	Leann Lansang	LAPD
Hector Meza	6	Hector Meza	Gen. Services
Malia Murga	6	Vicky Chan	Retired
Emerson Parish	6	Ed Wold	DWP
Luis Pemble	6	Gail Staugaard	Retired
Kelsey Remolino	6	Kyle Remolino	LAPD
Collin Sousa	6	John Sousa	Airports
Madison Toundsler	6	Lillian Toundsler	Retired
Ethan Alvarado	7	Carlos Alvarado Chavez	DWP
Jack Christopher	7	James Christopher	DWP
Joshua Estrada	7	Ramon Estrada	Harbor
Kryseyd Herrera	7	Maria Valles	DWP
Brooklyn Iasparro	7	Dominick Iasparro	LAPD
Ximena Ibarra	7	Sergio Ibarra	Airports
Emily Simmons	7	Douglas Donovan	Public Works
Hailyn Topete	7	Gloria Alvarado	Retired
Leyla Yoshida	7	Eric Yoshida	DWP
Talia Aguino	8	Molly Prager	Retired
Chloe Cardoza	8	Gilbert Cardoza	Retired
Nolan Davis	8	LaShonda Brewer	Rec and Parks
Aaliah Flores	8	Jose Flores	Gen. Services
Kayla Hargrove	8	Ean Hargrove	DWP
Madeline Moraga	8	Lilian Cardano	Retired
Olivia Parish	8	Ed Wold	DWP
Sadia Potts	8	Zakiyyah Potts	DWP
Kiara Yoshida	8	Eric Yoshida	DWP
Irish Contreraz	9	Robert Contreraz	Retired
Samantha Contreraz	9	Robert Contreraz	Retired
Olivia Cruz	9	Mardoqueo Cruz	Public Works
Joel Duarte	9	Mario Duarte	Gen. Services
Alexa Espiritu	9	Jose Espiritu	Public Works
Makhi Grant	9	Tanisha Rivas	Airports
Kiarra-Tatsu Hackett	9	Robin O'Dell	Retired
Vincent Ibarra	9	Sergio Ibarra	Airports
Christopher Lopez	9	Ricardo Lopez	Transportation
Andrea Pantoja	9	Daniel Pantoja	Animal Services
Jaelynn Parish	9	Ed Wold	DWP
Giovanna Pemble	9	Gail Staugaard	Retired
Addison Sousa	9	John Sausa	Airports
Raymond Trinh	9	Thai Viet Trinh	Public Works
Emily Aragon	10	Jorge Aragon	LAPD
Isabella Galoostian	10	Raymond Galoostian	Airports
Sydney Hernandez	10	Eduardo Hernandez	Rec and Parks
Arianna Roberts	10	Saturo Tanaka	Retired
Jeannine Rodriguez	10	Jose Rodriguez	Public Works
Victor Tario	10	Jenipher Quintanilla	Airports
Morgan Vocke	10	Matt Vocke	LAPD
Nadia Gallarzo	11	Georgina Tamayo	Housing
Myah Green	11	Chel Tinsley	Airports
Destinee Inman	11	Renee Ramirez	LAFD
Kyle Kadomatsu	11	Kelly Kadomatsu	LAPD
Natalie Mercado	11	Luz Ruiz	Animal Services
Nichelle Perkins	12	Evelyn Fitzpatrick	Retired
Shawn Jackson	13	Phyllis Massey	Retired
Brandon Roberts	13	Satoru Tanaka	Retired



**Transportation**

*Story by Noelle Kauffman, Club Member Coordinator*



From left: Harriett and Michael Dickens, Retiree, Traffic Officer II, 37 years of City service, Club Member.

# Dickens Retires

**Michael Dickens retires from Transportation after 37 years of City service.**

On July 18, friends and family of Michael Dickens gathered together at the beautiful Odyssey Restaurant in Granada Hills to celebrate his retirement from the City of Los Angeles.

Michael worked as a Traffic Officer II for Transportation for 37 years. An evening of dining, dancing, sharing of memories and laughs was enjoyed by all who attended the event.

*Congratulations, Michael, for an outstanding career with the City. We hope you're enjoying retirement life!*



From left: Alden Marsh, Sergeant and event host, 10 years of City service; and Michael Dickens, Retiree, Traffic Officer II, 37 years, Club Member.



From left: Michael Dickens, Retiree, Traffic Officer II, 37 years of City service, Club Member; Roman Oliva, Traffic Officer, 13 years; and Lisa Jones, Traffic Officer and Party Coordinator, 13 years, Club Member.



From left: Ann Kochakji and Ken Kochakji, Retired, Traffic Officer, 32 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Bill Locatelli, Retired, Traffic Officer, 34 years of City service; Michael Dickens, Traffic Officer II, 37 years, Club Member; Dianna Armijo, Sergeant, 27 years, Club Member; Al Armijo, Retired, Street Services Investigator, 26 years, Club Member; and Bob Moran, Traffic Officer, 35 years.



From left: Michael Dickens, Traffic Officer II, 37 years of City service, Club Member; and Douglas Stevenson, Traffic Officer, 31 years, Club Member.



From left: Sherry Phipps, Retired, Sr. Traffic Supervisor, 32 years of City service, Club Member; and Roy and Gwen Battles, Traffic Officer, 33 years, Club Member.



Guests Shanieka Ryland and Troy Dickens.



Al Armijo, Retired, Street Services Investigator, 26 years of City Service, Club Member; and Dianna Armijo, Sergeant, 27 years, Club Member.



Trevor Heerman, Traffic Officer, 17 years of City service, Club Member; and Karla Heerman, guest.



From left: Grace Tesser, Traffic Officer, 20 years of City service; Eli Tesser, Traffic Officer, 20 years; Tom Curran, Retired, Traffic Officer II, 40 years; and Sue Curran, guest.



From left: Al Cohen, Traffic Officer, 27 years of City service, Club Member; Michael Dickens, Traffic Officer II, 37 years, Club Member; and Bill Locatelli, Retired, Traffic Officer, 34 years.



From left: Jonathan Coney, guest; Michael Dickens, Retiree, Traffic Officer II, 37 years of City service, Club Member; and Charles Sallee, guest.



From left: Beryl Bausley, Retired Traffic Officer II, 32 years of City service, Club Member; Lynne Gregoire, Public Works Investigator, 26 years, Club Member; and Al Armijo, Retired, Street Services Investigator, 26 years, Club Member.



From left: Ruby Boord, Retired, Traffic Officer, 32 years of City service, Club Member; Diane Vero, Traffic Officer, 29 years; Bernadine Westmoreland, Traffic Supervisor and Sergeant, 25 years; and Diane and Harris Yoneoka, Traffic Officer, 39 years.



From left: Michael Dickens, Retiree, Traffic Officer II, 37 years of City service, Club Member; Jeanette Johnson, Traffic Officer II, 33 years; Iral Turner, Lieutenant, 26 years, Club Member; and Beryl Bausley, Retired, Traffic Officer, 32 years, Club Member.

**THIS MONTH AT THE**

# Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

A REC AND PARKS FACILITY

## Weekend Tidepool Walk

**SAT., DEC. 12  
2:30 – 4 P.M.**

Join CMA educators as they conduct tours of the Point Fermin tidepools. Attend an informative slide show in the John M. Olguin Auditorium, then come along on the naturalist-led ramble on the rocks to see animals in their natural habitat. Outdoor clothing and sneakers advised. Young children must be accompanied by adults.

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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

### Three Retirees Groups Hold Events; Make Sure You're at the Right One

#### Reservation Lines:

RLACEI events: (800) 678-4145, Ext. 701

DWP events: (626) 445-7376 (Dolores Foley)

LARFPA: (888) 288-5063

**Dec. 3:** RLACEI holiday party, noon, Friendship Auditorium, Los Angeles

**Dec. 13:** LARFPA Christmas party, 11 a.m., Sportsmen's Lodge, Studio City

**June 1:** LARFPA general meeting and annual barbecue, Grace E. Simons Lodge

#### RLACEI Website

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

#### Contact the LA City Employees' Retirement System

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](http://www.lacers.org)

#### DWP Retirees Association



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

#### Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



Robert L. Olsen, President  
Phone: (323) 283-4441  
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9521 Las Tunas Dr. #4,  
Temple City, CA 91780  
[www.larfpa.org](http://www.larfpa.org)

## Director Helen Salgado Moving On From Duties

RLACEI

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



### President's Report By Edward J. Harding President, RLACEI

Effective Jan. 1, Director Helen Salgado, our Membership Chairperson, will pass on her Membership duties to our Membership duties to our Director Cliff Cannon. Cliff will be our new Membership Chairman. Mary Beetz, our Publicity Chairman and News Editor, and Cliff will be working together. I wish to thank Mary for all the

extra work she has been doing all these years and all the work she does in putting our articles together for *Alive!*

I wish to thank Helen for her 20 years of service as our Membership Chairman. She has done a good job, and she and I have a great working relationship. Thanks again, Helen.

I understand that all who attended our general meeting in October enjoyed the sandwiches that we served. The beef sandwiches had "double" beef

and the turkey sandwiches also had "double" meat. We will be serving those sandwiches from now on. However, I don't feel we should serve sandwiches at our holiday party. I have asked George, owner of Chris & Pitts, to serve chicken, ribs, coleslaw, fruit salad and carrot cake – all the works!

The holiday party is scheduled for Dec. 3 at the Friendship Hall, so please make your reservations. See you there!

## How Is LACERS Doing?



Michael R. Wilkinson

### LACERS Board Update, By Michael R. Wilkinson

When I am approached by my fellow LACERS Members, the question most often asked is, "How are we doing?"

The answer is that LACERS is doing great, despite all the gloom and doom you may hear from the politicians who have targeted public employees and our pensions in particular.

Ah, let me get away from that and share our latest actuarial report that shows improvement in the funding ratio for both our retirement plan and our health benefits.

The latest report from our actuary, Segal and Company, reports that we have improved

our funded ratio for both our retirement plan and our health benefits, with the latter at nearly 80 percent funded. The funded ratio is the ratio of the actuarial value of plan assets to actuarial accrued liabilities. While the popular press depicts this as a solvency test, it is much more of a budgeting tool to make sure the plan is keeping up by putting enough money into the plan while people are working, so that the costs will not spike later when people retire.

The retirement funded ratio improved from 67.4 percent to 69.4 percent, while the ratio for retiree health benefits increased from 72.9 percent to 79.7 percent.

As regular readers of this column already know, LACERS is one of the few public pension plans that has been putting money away ahead of time for

decades (prefunding) for retiree health benefits rather than just paying the costs on a pay-as-you-go basis. This is the reason that the Pew Foundation recently rated LACERS the best-funded big city retirement health fund in the United States.

Even though the investment returns were low for the latest fiscal year (ending June 30, 2015), the actuarial level of investment gain (on a smoothed basis) is 8.6 percent, greater than the 7.5 percent assumed rate of investment return. The result was aided by an 18 percent investment return from the prior fiscal year.

On the health benefit side, the same investment return mentioned above was further aided by medical costs that were less than the assumed rate of medical inflation.

## Pension Controls in Calif., And Disaster in Illinois



Michael Karsch

### Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

In early October, the city of Glendale grabbed the attention of government employees and retirees with its decision to stop subsidies to retirees for their health benefits in 2016. Currently the subsidy is 50 percent. In one example, a two party PPO plan under Anthem costs \$2,454 per month, and Glendale pays \$1,049, with the employee or retiree paying the rest. Beginning in 2016, the retiree will pay all of the cost (\$2,454). The reason for this change is the impending standard change for all public pension systems reporting in the country under the Governmental Accountant Standards Board in 2017. The new standard is to report a given city's unfunded liability for retiree insurance premiums. According to the report in the *Glendale News-Press*, such

reporting would adversely impact the City's ability to borrow money (the interest rate would be higher) and to apply for grants. As I have mentioned before, the City of Los Angeles has been setting aside money for retiree health care for 20 years. L.A. will still have to report more information on its unfunded liability as GASB becomes effective in 2017.

Statewide, Californians are seeing a lot of interest in proposed initiatives hurting or reforming public pensions, which are being promoted by Chuck Reed, former mayor of San Jose, and Carl DeMaio, former councilmember from San Diego. While there is much talk as of this writing, there is no certified initiative released by the Secretary of State with the Attorney General's summary. One draft of pension reform would put new employees after 2019 in 401(k)-style retirement savings plans that guarantee fixed contributions from employers instead of promised retirement payments. Another

measure would cap the amount of money employers could pay for new hires' pension benefits to a percentage of their salary, such as 11 percent for regular employees and 13 percent for public safety. Yet another proposal earlier this year would have required voter approval before government employees could receive increased retirement benefits. All of these draft proposals are still just proposals that are pending release by the California Secretary of State for circulation. The 2016 November election is the target for these petitions.

Leaving California for a moment, let's look at Illinois. The rating agencies have downgraded Illinois again. Fitch Ratings lowered its rating on the state's \$26.8 billion in outstanding general obligation bonds. There were 13 credit rating downgrades under former Gov. Pat Quinn, now new Gov. Bruce Rauner has his first downgrade. Moody's Investors Services is also ready to downgrade Illinois, according to *Credit*

*Continues next page*



**Pension Controls in Calif., And Disaster in Illinois (continued)**

*Outlook.* The state legislature and governor enacted pension reform in 2013, but it was held unconstitutional by the state Supreme Court earlier this year. That ruling plus the failure to change the tax structure have led to unpaid bills now adding up to roughly \$6.9 billion. Illinois

has a similar legal protection for public pensions, as does California, although there are differences in how it is stated. Last to note: Social Security is not giving a cost of living increase next year (2016), so it is likely that our pensions will receive little, if

any, COLA increase next year, either. The basis of the two calculations are somewhat different, and the Social Security effective date is the beginning of the year, while our increases, if any, are on July 1.

**The Power of Signing, or Not Signing, Your Name**



Lee Kebler

I recently read an article by George Linn, President of Retired Public Employees Association. He made a powerful statement about what a useful tool a person's signature is. You use your signature to sign and endorse checks, and purchase your home and car. It's on your driver's license and many other documents. It can also be used to sign petitions and place initiatives on ballots. Your signature can be just as powerful by not signing items that can be used to your detriment. This is very important because Chuck Reed (former Mayor of San Jose) and Carl DeMaio (former Councilman from San Diego) have

stopped circulating their "Voters Empowerment of 2016" initiative because they couldn't get any backers to pay for getting signatures for their initiative. They decided to divide their original initiative into two new petitions to be presented to the voters. The first initiative is titled "Voters Empowerment Act" and would require all new hires and any new benefits for active and retired personnel to be approved by the voters. The second initiative is titled "California Pension Cap Act of 2016" and would establish a cap of 11 percent to 13 percent as the maximum amount any public pension employer could contribute to a

pension fund. If these initiatives pass they will cause many pension costs to rise out of control, many pension plans will close and it would obstruct hiring new employees and retaining old ones. We should let our families, friends and neighbors know about this attack on our pension systems and keep the iterative off the ballot. My point is, when you see someone circulating these petitions, use the power of your signature and *don't sign them.* Looking forward to seeing you at our Christmas party. For more information, call our office at (888) 288-5073.

**LARFPA**

**Open Enrollment Ends And Retiree Health Plan Changes Become Effective January 1, 2016**

**LACERS**



Mary Beetz

**LACERS' UPDATE BY MARY BEETZ**  
LACERS' Open Enrollment period ended November 17, 2015 and health plan changes can no longer be made for the 2016 calendar year. Unless you have a qualifying event, the next opportunity to make changes to your LACERS health plan will be next year during the Open Enrollment period for 2017. For more information about qualifying events, contact LACERS at (800) 779-8328 or visit [www.lacers.org/retired](http://www.lacers.org/retired), "Quick Links," to view the 2016 Health Benefits Guide (page 5). Most of the 2015 benefits and premium subsidies remain unchanged for the 2016 plan year. However, be sure to check the Health Benefits

Guide for any changes that may have impacted your plan. The key changes are:  
• Anthem Blue Cross HMO will have an overall premium increase of 9.4% and Anthem Blue Cross HMO prescription drug copays will be as follows:  
– \$10 generic/ \$30 brand / \$50 non-formulary – retail (30 day supply)  
– \$20 generic/ \$60 brand / \$100 non-formulary – mail (90 day supply)  
– \$20% coinsurance for specialty drugs, up to \$100  
• The SCAN Health Plan will no longer be available in Arizona.  
**Remember:** Any health plan changes you made during the

Open Enrollment period will become effective January 1, 2016, and your first monthly health plan premium deduction for 2016 will begin with your December 31, 2015, LACERS Retirement Allowance.



**Holiday Events for Retirees: You Are Invited To Rlacei Holiday Party:**

**Retirees Holiday Parties in December**  
**Don't forget to attend a retiree party this holiday season!**

**RLACEI:** The RLACEI's annual Christmas Party and Installation of Officers event is scheduled for noon Thursday, Dec. 3 at the Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles. There will be a light lunch (sandwiches, salad and drinks), entertainment and valuable door prizes. You must make reservations at least a week ahead: (800) 678-4145, x701. Guests welcome.

Call one of the officers on the Retirees Helplines. Free taxi service can take you from the parking lot to the lodge.  
**LARFPA:** For Retired Fire and Police, your Christmas party is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 13, at Sportsmen's Lodge, 12833 Ventura Blvd., Studio City. Contact LARFPA for more information.

**RLACEI Annual Holiday Party**  
Noon, Thursday, Dec. 3  
Friendship Auditorium  
3201 Riverside Drive  
Los Angeles

**LARFPA, Retired Fire and Police Christmas Party**  
11 a.m. – 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13  
Sportsmen's Lodge  
12833 Ventura Blvd., Studio City  
Contact LARFPA for more information.



**For Retired Club Members**

**The Best Years**

**CONTACT THE CLUB:**



**Tiffany Sy**  
Club Member Services Counselor, In-house  
**(800) 464-0452, Ext. 202**  
TSy@cityemployeesclub.com  
[www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)

**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.  
**Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System: (800) 779-8328**  
**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 Stemnock	Ext. 708
• Michael Wilkinson	Ext. 712
Questions:	Ext. 0
RSVP:	Ext. 701
<b>DWP Retirement Plan Office</b>	<b>(213) 367-1722</b>

**RLACEI:**

**Officers**  
Edward Harding: President  
Kenneth Spiker: First Vice President  
Tom Stemnock: 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  
Michael R. Wilkinson, Legal and Legislative  
Tom Stemnock: 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



## Caves, and Picasso

Hal and Evelyn celebrate 25 years of marriage with a transatlantic cruise. **Part 3**

*Evelyn and I went on a cruise adventure in October 2014, celebrating 25 years of marriage. We flew to Barcelona via Paris and spent four nights in Barcelona before boarding the Celebrity ship Equinox for a 14-day repositioning cruise to Fort Lauderdale. We stopped in five ports before a seven-day crossing. We met our friends Max and Linda in Barcelona. They had already been on the ship for 14 days.*

2013 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

Once at sea, our first port was Mallorca, also known as Majorca, the largest of the Balearic Islands. It is autonomous region and a province of eastern Spain.

We docked (Oct. 28, 2014) at around 8 a.m. We had not booked a tour and would either use the Hop-on, Hop-off bus or hire a taxi to see the sights. We had breakfast at the buffet, and the food, selection and appearance continued to be above average for a cruise ship.

We left the ship at 9:30 a.m. and with a little negotiation hired a taxi and Julian, the driver, to show us the sights, as limited as they were on this resort island. For €35 each he provided four or five hours of touring, including the underground caves in Porto Cristo, a Majorca pearl factory, and a city tour of Palma. Julian had a nice van, with functional air conditioning, and it was comfortable for the four of us. Our first stop was the Majorca Pearl factory shop: the man made pearl-making process was founded more than 120 years ago. We saw a demonstration of how the pearls are made by female artisans. Evelyn made a small purchase, which after seeing the price on the ship saved about a third of the price.

The next stop was the caves, which were first opened to the public in 1910. There were three different viewing areas, each with a light show using Jules Verne and music by Mozart. The last stop in the caves was a very large lake within the cave, where they put the children on the tour in life jackets and rowed them around the lake. We were underground about 90 feet and had to climb down and climb up. The whole tour took about an hour and half. It was nice, but we have seen more interesting caves. We then drove back to Palma, about 40 miles, to view the Cathedral, which is about 750 years old. In the early 1900s, Gaudí worked on the Cathedral after it had sustained damage in a fire. We then visited the Bellver Castle, whose construction began in the 14th century. It is 300 feet above sea level, and we had a great view of the city. Before dropping us back at the ship, Julian drove around the central city and showed us the shopping and tourist areas. Some of the streets were so narrow that you could lose one or both side mirrors, and those on foot had to wait in doorways for us to pass by. We got back to the ship around 3 p.m. and enjoyed our guide so much we gave him an extra €20.

We had a quick bite in the buffet and decided to meet for drinks at 7 p.m. and then have dinner and catch the 10 p.m. show. We sat in the martini bar, which is an "ice bar" with a frozen bar top, where all drinks were \$12. This was fine for martinis, but much too expensive for my Jack Daniel's or Maker's Mark.

We had a nice table for four, and dinner was good. So far, the Celebrity cruise line was way better than Princess Cruises on food. Evelyn and I saw the late show; Max and Linda had seen the comedian, Rondell Sheridan, before. He was very funny and kept the audience laughing. That was his last show on this ship, and I was glad we saw him.

The ship was really quite beautiful – very modern with a lot of glass. With the exception of a tree in a large pot suspended above the main atrium, there was almost nothing green.

We docked in Valencia (Oct. 29) at 7 a.m. and sailed again at 2 p.m., which made for a very short day. I don't know why we were in port for such a short time. Valencia is Spain's third largest city after Madrid and Barcelona. This ship was so big that it had to dock in the more commercial area of the port, which meant we couldn't walk into the city. The port had a shuttle bus (€5 round trip), which took us to the center of town. There was a Starbucks there, so we needed to look for a mug.

Valencia is known for its orange groves, great beaches, art, architecture and cuisine. We saw mostly the architecture in our short visit. The weather continued to be great,



Hal in the cave.



In the cave.

and asked a couple of people, locals and tourists, for directions. We found it, but it didn't have any mugs with the name Málaga.

We walked to the central market, which was like most other cities we had been in – lots of individual stalls with meats, fish, produce and spices. What I noticed is how clean the area was – no trash on the floors. The markets in Italy didn't seem as clean.

We continued our walk through the historic center of the city, which is mostly a walking area. We headed to the Picasso Museum. There were many shops, restaurants

and a few souvenir stores. We found the museum and got the senior rate of €4, which included an audio device. The museum is not large but contained a good example of his work. Most of the works were donated by his daughter-in-law. We spent about an hour in the museum.

It was getting past lunchtime

and we stopped at a sidewalk cafe on the main square. We shared a Pella, tapas and a pitcher of sangria – very filling for two people. We people-watched while we ate. The weather continued to be great – sunny and not too warm.

We got back to the ship around 4 p.m. All that sangria called for a nap. Max and Linda wouldn't be back until after 8 p.m. so we were on our own for dinner. We weren't hungry, so we decided to see the 8 p.m. show and eat after. The show was Beatles Celebration, a cover group. The great 55-minute show had the audience on its feet. The Hollywood Bowl could learn a few things about putting on a Beatles show.

We were finally a little hungry, so we ate in the buffet. This was the first time we had seen the dinner buffet, and I thought it was pretty good. I had a couple of pieces of fried chicken and a salad.

Next month we will visit the Canary Islands before beginning our Atlantic crossing.



The market in Málaga.

with temps in the mid-70s and just a little overcast.

We caught the shuttle, which seemed to be the transport of choice for most of the passengers. The ride into the city center took about 20 minutes. We had a map, and once we determined our location it was a five-minute walk to the shopping area. The area was a mixture of old and new, with narrow, windy streets. We found the Starbucks and Evelyn was able to get another mug. We didn't have a lot of time so the girls bought some gelato, and then we walked back to the shuttle. Linda collects salt- and peppershakers and found a very whimsical set inspired by Dalí that she purchased.

We had lunch on the ship. I tried the hamburger grill and it was okay but not great. After lunch we played canasta for a couple of hours. That night was a formal night and we had wine with the cheese platter in our cabin before we went to dinner. Most everyone was dressed up. There was no pre-dinner party, but before each show (8 and 10), the Captain came on stage and introduced his senior staff and offered a champagne toast. The show featured the ship's singers and dancers doing Broadway show tunes and some dancing. They were good and we all enjoyed the show,

even those of us who may have dozed off a few times.

Spain was in the midst of some political turmoil at the time. The Catalonia region (including Barcelona) wants to have more independence. So with an election coming up in a week or so in early November, we saw Catalan flags all over Barcelona. Once we left this region there was no evidence of any turmoil.

The next day we sailed to Málaga; we didn't dock until 11 a.m., so everyone could sleep in.

Sleeping in, if 8 a.m. qualifies, was nice. Max and Linda took a tour of the Alhambra, which means they wouldn't get back to the ship until 8 p.m. (we sailed at 9 p.m.). Evelyn and I toured the Alhambra on a previous cruise, and it's a must-see. After we woke up, we had a quick breakfast in the buffet and sat with an interesting lady from Florida.

Málaga is in the southern part of Spain and is part of the Costa del Sol. It has some of the best beaches in Europe. It is also the birthplace of Pablo Picasso.

We left the ship (Oct. 30) at 11 a.m. and took the €5 shuttle to the area just outside the port area. We knew there was a Starbucks



Evelyn at the Majorca pearl factory.



# RETIREES AROUND THE WORLD



## 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](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

1

## Mediterranean



"My wife, Rhonda, and I traveled on a seven-day Mediterranean cruise in late September. We started our cruise in Barcelona, Spain. We toured Palma de Mallorca, Spain; Marseilles, France; and then, to Italy: the coast of Cinque Terre, Florence, Pisa, the Vatican, the Coliseum, Pompeii and Naples." — **Michael Holmes, Retired, Public Works/Street Services**



Tara Miller, MS RD/N  
LACERS Well Program Coordinator

## Ask the Dietitian



A monthly question-and-answer feature with  
Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist Tara Miller,  
LACERS Well Program Coordinator

## Questions?

Do you have a question for Tara, the  
LACERS Registered Dietitian? Write to her:  
[talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Is it possible to have a stress-free, healthy holiday?

— LACERS Well Member

One year, while in college, I worked at Disneyland in the holiday parade as an eight-foot Dancing Reindeer. I can still hear the tune "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" in my head, and, if pressed, I could perform the routine that was barely feasible in a suit made of brown shag carpet and glitter ribbon. So I'm almost *conditioned* to think that the upcoming holidays should, in fact, be *wonderful*, but truth be told, I tend to stress out more than I should. In showing my love and appreciation, merriment gives way to fatigue, frustration and downright *bah-humbuginess*. So this year, I'm vowing to follow these Five Rules for a happier holiday and stress-less season.

### 1. Plan ahead. And if that fails, shop with Groupon.

Notorious for trying to do too much in too little time (like making 15 pairs of homemade, theme-specific pajama bottoms a week before Christmas), this year I created a fun, colorful planner that I can add inspirational pictures to, jot down random thoughts, and schedule time-sensitive tasks (like sending out holiday cards *before* January). But if you've missed your pre-planning window, don't fret. Consider the many



Tara and the Dancing Reindeer.

available resources that make life a bit less complicated like on-line deal warehouses (i.e. Groupon, Living Social and Amazon), pre-made meal items or catering, and volunteer gift-wrapping services. You may find that you've freed up some of that elusive "time" for more valuable things. (See Rules #2 and #5).

### 2. Eat. Drink. And get off the couch.

Happy and healthy go hand in hand, yet self-care often takes a back seat to seasonal obligations. Attention to mental and physical health has been proven to improve moods, energy levels and our sense of contentment. This year, consider health as something to be included in the celebration, not shelved until the New Year, by incorporating a walk, a class or a healthy meal into your holiday plans. These experiences (like good health) are even better when shared.

### 3. Put a sock in your inner 'Martha Stewart'.

Last year I created an impromptu Thanksgiving "winter wonderland" for my nieces and nephew. I

draped fabric, glittered pumpkins and strung twinkle lights, and by noon I was exhausted and grumpy. I wanted it to be *super* special and although they loved it, I had fallen into a familiar "creativity rabbit hole" and almost missed the point of the day, which was to spend quality time with my favorite munchkins – not being anointed "Queen Pinterest."

The demands we place on ourselves are inordinate and, even more often, unnecessary. Do what brings you joy, not applause. No one will care (or even notice) if it's not perfect, and you'll likely be able to stay awake for dessert.

### 4. Traditions: Remember the old, and celebrate the new.

This time of year can be challenging for many reasons, but loss is one of the most painful. Give extra attention to those who may be experiencing loneliness or grief, and make a point to share good memories about past holidays. Incorporating new traditions together can also help to soothe the pain of bereavement and bridge generation gaps, while creating new memories to share next year.

### 5. Be a Grinch with your money, but not with your time.

While time seems especially limited during the holidays, consider its market value. Spending it with those you love won't deplete your savings, gains interest exponentially, and will never be outdated. Can you say the same thing about the new, whatever-is-hot-right-now gadget? Prioritize quality time with loved ones *more* and worry about finding the perfect gift *less*. You are more valuable than anything that can be bought.

# 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	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Adams, Carl Anthony	Elevator Mechanic	Airport	21	Gonzalez, George A.	Sr. Gardener	Rec and Parks	20	Perez, Jose L.	Custodian	Airports	16
Aguirre, Ulises E.	Airport Manager	Airports	30	Goulet, Douglas K.	Maint. Constr. Helper	Zoo	10	Pfaender, Armin K.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	30
Arroyo, Mario A.	Motor Sweeper Oper.	Public Works	35	Greer, Howard	Irrigation Specialist	Rec and Parks	28	Prosser, Debbie L.	Sr. Police Service Rep	LAPD	14
Castillo, Emiliano	Cement Finisher Work.	Public Works	14	Haynes, Lyle W.	Asset Manager	Airports	3	Rich, Jack D.	Heavy Duty Truck Op.	Public Works	26
Chen, Min Kai	Engineer Designer	Public Works	26	Isaacs, Jeffrey Benjamin	Chief Assist. City Attorney	City Attorney	21	Roesner, Gerd R.	Constr. Maint. Supv.	Harbor	22
Cho, Soon S.	Struct. Engin. Assoc.	Build. & Safety	6	Jenkins, Christopher Jr.	Equipment Operator	Public Works	25	Schreiner, Gregory	Heavy Duty Equip. Mech.	Airports	30
Courtney, Malcolm E.	Custodian Supervisor	General Serv.	25	Jones, Carlton M.	Civil Engin. Assoc.	Public Works	21	Scott, Daniel M.	Pr. City Planner	Planning	36
Culhane, Elizabeth	Transport. Engineer	Transportation	12	Katz, Alvin Joseph	Traffic Officer	Transportation	18	Selva, Ann Frances	Pr. Clerk Police	LAPD	30
Denton, Glanner F.	Paralegal	City Attorney	26	Lally, Patrick Dennis	Sr. Heavy Duty Equip. Mech.	Airports	27	Urbina, Jose D.	Gardener Caretaker	Rec and Parks	20
Douglas, Hattie Mae	Clerk Typist	Econ./Work. Dev.	34	Lewis, Stacy Parra	Sr. Clerk Typist	Harbor	21	Wang, Leechung L.	Architect	General Serv.	24
Durham, Damien A.	Ref. Coll. Truck Oper.	Public Works	29	Martinez, Aura	Special Prog. Assist.	Rec and Parks	4	Wijangco, Rolando S.	Construction Inspector	Public Works	25
Dykier, Glenn Matthew	Build. Repairer Supv.	General Serv.	29	Maya, Carlos D.	Crossing Guard	Transportation	10	Ybarra, Esther Rodriguez	Sr. Clerk Typist	Build. & Safety	12
Fierro, Laura Lee	Legal Assistant	City Attorn. Off.	20	Miles, Wrenis S.	Wastewater Coll. Work.	Public Works	32	Young, Frederick J.	Welder	Airports	32
Galletta, Maria Stella	Sr. Systems Analyst	General Serv.	30	Miller, Frank B.	Sr. Constr. Inspector	Public Works	23	Young, Terrell Lynn	Pr. Clerk	Housing	34
Galsim, Teodulo C.	Pr. Construction Insp.	Public Works	32	Moore, Angelene	Clerk Typist	LAPD	12				
Garcia, Rogelio A.	Special Prog. Assist.	Rec and Parks	6	Munoz, Valerie Anne	Sr. Manage. Analyst	LAFD	30				



# The Best Years

## For Retired Club Members

Images courtesy Ron Maben



Central Library downtown.

## Retirement, in Watercolors

Ron Maben, Retired, Planning, fulfills his artistic dreams with watercolors.



Ron Maben, Retired, Planning.

The conclusion of Ron Maben's City career meant the beginning of another pursuit — one that rekindled a childhood passion.

Ron, a Club Member who retired in 2007 as Metro City Planner out of Planning, paints watercolors. His most recent focus has been on recognizable City buildings downtown, but his work also mirrors his passion for fly-fishing, too.

"I considered becoming a fine artist when I was a kid, but my dad was a very nuts-and-bolts kind of guy, and he discouraged me from any sort of artistic thing," Ron says from his home in Woodland Hills. "In Tucson, Ariz., where I'm from, you didn't think you had the same sort of career options you do in Los Angeles. Those children of the Depression like my dad went, 'Get something with a solid future and a paycheck,' so I did."

Ron studied sculpture in college at Cal State Long Beach and had a large sculpture studio in a previous home in Manhattan Beach. Downsizing after a divorce meant less space, and so watercoloring became his passion. Coursework in painting at UCLA Extension got him going.

"I don't have a schedule for painting," he says. "It just sort of moves me. Usually winter is better because I have more downtime. In the summer I tend to be outside — mountain-biking, painting and fly-fishing are my three avocations now."

### Love of Art

Art is a passion that never left him.

"When you're deep into a painting you just connect into some different consciousness, and the time goes away," he explains. "It's almost like something else is controlling your hand, and when you're finished and you look at the piece of work and you say, 'Really, I did that? How did that happen?' There's almost like a big surprise and mystery to the whole thing when they're good."

### Always a New Canvas

For the foreseeable future, Ron plans to continue working on his cityscape series. The scenes of the City of Los Angeles are meaningful to him.

"I always want something that shouts Los Angeles that could be nowhere else on the planet, and I was thinking capturing the Orpheum Theatre on Broadway downtown next. That would be launching into something really new for me — that would be most impressively done at night, and paintings of nighttime scenes are tough. I've not done one, but I'm thinking maybe that will be the next challenge. You can't just pick a building and do it, because you have to have a composition that works, and sometimes you can't really get a composition. And I like to add some vegetation, some sort of a natural green element, because it breaks up those hard planes and surfaces and creates more of a total picture. All of that is in the back of my head."

### A Life Outside the Office

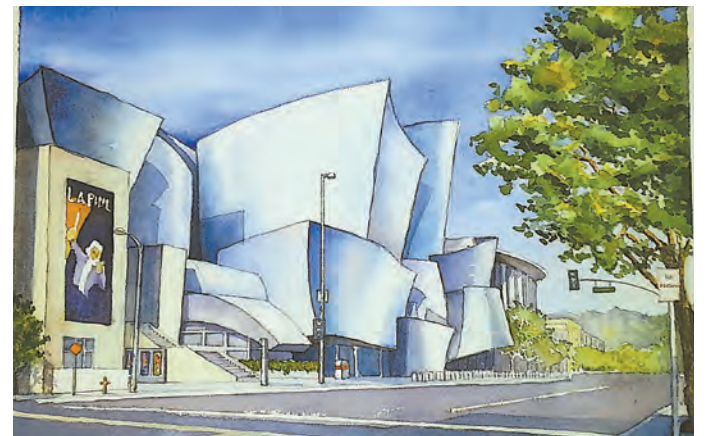
For Ron, painting creates a warm pursuit after a very cold realization that he needed a focus after he retired.

"Painting can add a new dimension to life, and if you're closing in on retirement you really must have a life outside of going to the office," he explains. "One fellow who I knew who worked for the Post Office retired, and about a year afterwards I saw him and asked him how his retirement was going, because I was enjoying it very much myself. He said, 'Ron, it's awful. Every day is the same.' It was a very cold moment."

"I had a *Twilight Zone* moment when I let LACERS know I was going to retire. I went over to the LACERS office and was ready to sign all of these pieces of paper, and my hand started to shake. I went 'Oh, my.' And it felt like that opening theme of *The Twilight Zone* with that *doo-doo-doo-doo* playing in the background. I thought, Oh my God, what am I going to do after 38-and-a-half years of going to an office, and suddenly that structure won't be there? So you have to build something. You really do, or you're like that guy from the Post Office who's just adrift, saying, 'What do I do now?'"

He has his painting, and other pursuits.

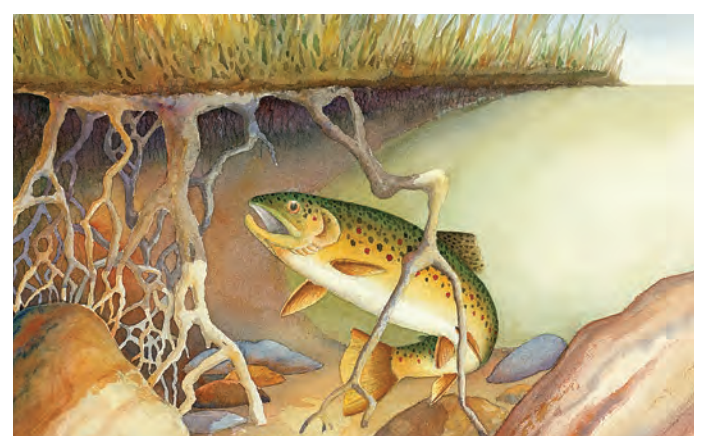
"While I sell a painting occasionally when someone expresses particular interest, I have not pursued it as a second career. I just enjoy seeing the paintings come to life."



Disney Hall.



City Hall.



Fly fishing is another of Ron's passions, like this brown trout.





Michelle Vaca.



Emmy San Diego.



Dana Kano.



From left: Gari Magistrate, Nicholas Alirez, unknown.



Valley P.M. Watch, from left: Deby Herdrich and Gari Magistrate.



Jacqui Dreben.

## Halloween Fun

### LAPD Communications hosts annual dress-up day.

On Oct. 31, the men and women of the LAPD Valley and Metro 911 Emergency Call Centers had their annual Halloween fun by dressing up for the holiday. Here's a list of some of the participants:

#### Metro Communications Dispatch Center

##### A.M. Watch:

Rosanna Kim as CSI murder victim (first-place winner)  
Cindy Robles as Dead Maus (second-place winner)  
Michael Mendoza in a Ghille Suit (third-place winner)  
Tamara Brown as Heinz ketchup  
Andrew Tarabotto as an Army soldier  
Lasharae Session as Minnie Mouse  
Paul Gonzalez as Slash

##### P.M. Watch:

Maria Sanchez-Ruiz, PSR II, as an El Niño hurricane (first-place winner)  
Quinnette McLeod, PSR I, as a black cat (second-place winner)  
Vicky Arujo, Sr. PSR I, as a big baby (third-place winner)

#### Valley Communications Dispatch Center

##### A.M. Watch:

Jacqui Dreben as Ms. Bones (first-place winner)  
Lily Gomez as a Whoopee Cushion (second-place winner)  
Michelle Vaca as a Postal employee (third-place winner)  
Leslie Chavez as a Gypsy  
Isabel Gonzalez as inmate Flaca from *Orange Is the New Black*  
Emmy San Diego as a terrorist  
Laura Diaz as a snowman

##### P.M. Watch:

Gari Magistrate as Roscoe the squirrel, the Valley Communications Center's mascot (first-place winner)  
Deby Herdrich as Vitameatavegemin Lucy (second-place winner)  
Dana Kano as the Grim Reaper (third-place winner)

**Thanks, LAPD Communications, for sharing your fun with the Club!**



Vicky Arujo, Sr. PSR I.



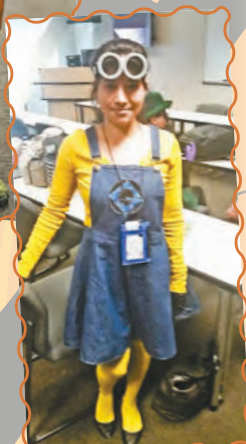
Valley day watch.



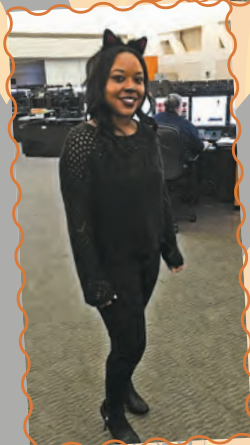
Valley day watch.



Maria Sanchez-Ruiz, PSR II.



Above: Briana Aldana. Left: Quinnette McLeod, PSR I.



Deborah Stowers.



Valley day watch, from left: Lily Gomez, Michelle Vaca, Laura Diaz, Isabel Gonzalez and Leslie Chavez.



From left: Tamara Brown, Cindy Robles, Rosanna Kim.



Paul Gonzalez



# Holiday Happenings 2015

Zoo

## Holiday Lights, and More

**Zoo brings back its popular Holiday Lights for second year, adds 2 VIP experiences, more space.**

With the flick of a switch that illuminates a dazzling wonderland, L.A. Zoo Lights returns bigger and better for 2015 now through Sun., Jan. 3. With awe-inspiring features providing a brand-new spin on holiday lights in Griffith Park, L.A. Zoo Lights sets the Zoo’s environment aglow with breathtaking displays, among them thousands of LED lights, flurries of illuminated snowflakes, 3-D animated projections and glittering light tunnels. A menagerie of animal characters include mischievous animated monkeys scampering through the grounds, a glowing 130-foot snake coiled on a roof, a hillside with snowboarding “lizards,” 3-D animated elephants wearing colorful holiday sweaters, an origami-type rhino lit from within and so much more. L.A. Zoo Lights will be open every night except Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) and Christmas Day (Dec. 25), from 6 to 10 pm Mondays through Thursdays, and 6 to 11 pm Fridays through Sundays and Dec. 21 - 23. Tickets are on sale now.



### LA Zoo Lights

**What:** LA Zoo Lights, an immersive display of lights that guests walk through

**New for 2015:** Bigger and better is promised, plus special VIP events (extra fee)

**When:** Nightly through Jan. 3 (daily except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

**Time:** Mon.-Thurs: 6 to 10 p.m.; Fri.-Sun., also Dec. 21-23: 6 – 11 p.m.

**Cost:** Requires a separate admission: \$13 for adults/seniors and \$11 for children 2-12; for Zoo Association members, tickets are \$11 for adults/seniors and \$10 for children; children under age two are free.

**Tickets Available:** Now. Online: [LAZoolights.org](http://LAZoolights.org)

**Location:** LA Zoo and Botanical Gardens, Griffith Park, 5355 Zoo Dr.

**Parking:** Free

**Info:** (323) 644-6042 or [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org)

An instant hit when it debuted last year, attracting more than 177,000 people, L.A. Zoo Lights for 2015 is sure to top the “holiday tradition” destination list once more, with a trove of new lights and displays for an even brighter atmosphere of wonder and delight, and unlike anything seen in L.A. before. Captivating guests for an ideal family outing, meet-up with friends or date night, L.A. Zoo Lights’ self-guided 60- to 90-minute walking tour through select areas of the Zoo – while L.A. Zoo animal residents are asleep – offers a unique visitor experience that features the only opportunity in Los Angeles to see real reindeer; visits with Santa Claus on select dates; and hot chocolate, churros and other holiday treats and goodies for sale. Last year, the first-ever LA Zoo Lights was established by the private, nonprofit Greater Los

### LA Zoo Lights: New for 2015

Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA) as a festive new tradition.

In addition to more lights, displays, décor, effects and a larger L.A. Zoo Lights area in the Zoo, the event’s biggest expansion this year takes place in and around The LAIR (Living Amphibians, Invertebrates, and Reptiles), which boasts a giant 130-foot illuminated snake gazing down from the rooftop, flicking its tongue as guests enter the building. Inside The Lair, guests find themselves bathed in ultraviolet light with glowing webs, orbs, and “insects” of all kinds on the rock walls. In the LAIR courtyard, guests will witness snowboarding iguanas on a sparkly, frosty hillside. At the next stop, guests will encounter a holiday aquatic show boasting lighted fountains and shooting screens of water with majestic projections of fanciful animations set to music. The re-imagined Santa’s Village is in an all-new, glittering Alpine setting, the perfect

location for magical holiday photos (available for an additional fee).

Also new this year are two “VIP Experiences,” including an exclusive holiday happy hour for the 21-and-up crowd, and a family New Year’s Eve for all ages. The holiday happy hour on Sat., Dec. 10, features “skip-the-line” express entry to L.A. Zoo Lights with a private lounge from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. boasting hors d’oeuvres, beer, wine and hot and cold specialty cocktails. Tickets for the holiday happy hour are \$75 per person. The family New Year’s Eve at 6 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 31, provides an opportunity to celebrate the coming of 2016 in style with “skip-the-line” express entry to L.A. Zoo Lights, dinner buffet, soft drinks, complimentary Champagne for adults, sparkling apple cider for kids, dessert, a ride on the Zoo’s special conservation carousel, crafts for youngsters, DJ dance party, cash bar and live broadcast of New York’s Times Square ball drop at 9 p.m., after which guests are welcome to experience

L.A. Zoo Lights until closing. Family New Year’s Eve tickets are \$65 for adults and \$40 for children, or \$60 (adults) and \$35 (children) for GLAZA members. Tickets for both “VIP Experiences” have limited availability, so early purchase is strongly suggested.

L.A. Zoo Lights has again been developed in collaboration with art director Gregg Lacy and Bionic League, entertainment-industry partners renowned for remarkable large-scale installations for festivals, stadiums, arenas, clubs, and artists like Daft Punk, Kanye West and many others.

Sponsors of L.A. Zoo Lights are 99 Cent Only Stores, Service Systems Associates, and ScholarShare. Donors include The Georgina Frederick Children’s Foundation, Beth and Joshua Friedman, Larry and Sue Ivanjack, Paramount Pictures, Donald and Susan Rice, the Shultz Family and the employees of the Shultz Steel Company and the Simms Family Foundation.

## Movie Packs Make Perfect Gifts



**FREE Gift Box with Movie Pack Purchase**

**AMC THEATRES**

**REGAL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP**

Includes movie tickets, popcorn, and soda vouchers. Movie pack selection varies depending on the participating theatre.

**Club Member Exclusive**  
**\$26**

**Holiday gift boxes are available for in-store purchases only and are limited for the holiday season!**

Club Store, 120 W. 2nd St., L.A., CA 90012 | [www.CityEmployeesClub.com](http://www.CityEmployeesClub.com)

**Great Gift Idea!**

## Movie Tickets Packs!

A Club holiday hit when they were introduced last year, Club Movie Ticket Packs are beautifully wrapped bundles of movie tickets ready to go, at the great Club discount. As always, they’re the cheapest in the state: \$26 for each ticket pack.

You can specify the theatre chain.

They’re perfect as stocking stuffers, gifts for co-workers or as part of a Secret Santa program, or as regular gifts.

**Grab some today at the Club Store!**



# Holiday Happenings 2015

## Zoo

### Romp With Rudolph

Zoo brings back annual reindeer fun.



Reindeer in LA for the holidays.

#### Reindeer Romp

**What:** Reindeer Romp, Los Angeles Zoo: reindeer, holiday fun, visits from Santa Claus  
**When:** Now – Jan. 3 (daily except Christmas Day)  
**Time:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Cost:** Free (except Santa photos) with paid Zoo admission (\$20 for general admission, 13 to 61; \$17 for seniors 62-plus), and \$15 for children 2 to 12). No ticket is required for children under age two. Admission for Zoo Association members is free.  
**Location:** LA Zoo and Botanical Gardens, Griffith Park, 5355 Zoo Dr.  
**Parking:** Free.  
**Information:** (323) 644-6042 or [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org)

In addition to its big holiday lights festival, the Zoo also offers holiday fun with its annual Reindeer Romp, the only opportunity to see real reindeer in Los Angeles from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily from now to Jan. 3 (except Christmas Day). Visitors will enjoy a flurry of seasonal festivities and yuletide flourishes, plus occasional visits by Santa Claus.

The landmark Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens, drawing 1.6 million visitors each year, is home to a diverse collection of 1,100 animals representing 250 different species, many of which are rare or endangered. Its lush grounds on 113 acres feature a botanical collection comprising more than 800 different plant species with approximately 7,000 individual plants.

## Rec and Parks



### A Civil War Christmas

Drum Barracks Museum in Wilmington recalls the holidays of yesteryear.

The community is invited to welcome the holiday season by traveling back in time at the Drum Barracks Museum, the City's only surviving Civil War-era military structure. Experience the holiday as it was celebrated in the Civil War era.

The 16th annual "A Civil War Christmas" is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 5-6. Guests can travel in the height of style on the popular horse-drawn, holiday-red trolley. Music will fill the rooms of the Drum Barracks with joyous sounds, and bell ringing will occur. An encampment will be set up on the museum grounds – visit the camp, and learn how Civil War soldiers and their families celebrated the holidays. Arts and crafts of the era will be taught during the weekend, including the decorating of a soldier's Christmas tree. Admission to Drum Barracks is free for this special event.

*Drum Barracks Museum is a Rec and Parks facility.*

#### A Civil War Christmas

**Dates:** Special event: Dec. 5-6  
 Regular hours:  
 Tues.-Thurs., and Sat.-Sun.  
 Closed Christmas Day.  
**Tickets:** Free for special event  
 (tickets for regular tours:  
 \$5 suggested donation)  
**Address:** 1052 Banning Blvd.,  
 Wilmington  
**Info:** (310) 548-7509 or  
[www.drumbarracks.org](http://www.drumbarracks.org)

Be a Part of a  
Club Holiday Tradition

# It's Party Pix Time

We want to print pictures from your holiday office party in *Alive!*

*Is your office having a holiday party? Here are two ways to get your holiday office party pictures into the January Alive!*

#### Take the photos yourself:

Take the photos yourself, and send them in as soon as you can. Digital photos are always best. And make sure you give us a description of the party: when it was, where it was, and if something significant happened, let us know that, too.

Email the photos to:  
[talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com).  
 If there are a lot, it's best to send them in on a thumb drive; put 'em up on Dropbox, Box, or some other cloud service; or deliver (or mail) a CD or DVD to the Club. The address is on the inside front cover. Make sure the photos are as high resolution as you can make them.

#### We'll take your holiday photos for you:

Let us know when your holiday party is, and we'll try to send a photographer. Please note: There are more City holiday parties than we can cover, but we will try. That's why it's best to send in your own photos. If you want us to cover your party, talk to your **Club Rep** (Arlene Herrero, Angel Gomez, Gedina Bergstrom, Dalila Vielma, Jeanette Gadut, Tiffany Sy or Noelle Kauffman) or email Robert Larios, Club Chief Operating Officer, at [rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com). *We'll do our best to get to as many parties as we can, but we can't guarantee it.* But let us know.



See you at the party!



# Holiday Happenings 2015

## El Pueblo

### Christmas on Olvera Street

**El Pueblo Historical Monument celebrates with Holiday Tree Lighting.**

El Pueblo Historical Monument – Olvera Street – plans to kick off its Christmas season from 5 to 9 p.m. Dec. 4 with a Holiday Tree Lighting.

The event includes food, mariachi music, dancing, costumes and of course officials throwing the switch to illuminate the tree on Los Angeles' historic district.

Special thanks to Chris Espinosa, General Manager, El Pueblo Historical Monument, for the information and photos.



From 2014: Mayor Eric Garcetti, El Pueblo Commissioner Robert Vinson and some children turn on the lights for the event.



Mariachis Divas de Cindy Shea performed at the tree lighting in 2014.

Story and photos courtesy El Pueblo Historical Monument

### Olvera Street Tree Lighting

**When:** 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4.  
**Where:** Olvera Street, Downtown  
**Cost:** Free  
**Including:** entertainment for the family, food, costumes, etc.  
**Info:** [www.elpueblo.lacity.org](http://www.elpueblo.lacity.org)

STUFF  
THAT  
STOCKING

With  
movie tickets  
from  
the Club!

– SEE PAGE 45

For your holiday shopping  
Whoa!

**FOREVER  
FREE  
SHIPPING**

The Club's awesome Club benefit –  
**Forever Free  
Standard Shipping**  
 – is perfect for the  
 Christmas holidays!

As you do your holiday shopping, don't forget that the Club's free standard shipping on everything at the Club Store all year long – tickets and merchandise bought from the Club Store or Webstore – is in full effect. Take advantage!

Don't worry about surcharges – there are none for Club merchandise and tickets. You pay just for the price of the item, nothing more.

Put that free standard shipping to work for you, for all your Club holiday shopping needs!



**City Employees Club**  
 Cheap Tickets.  
 Insane Service.  
 Affordable Insurance.

From left: Mariana Guevara, Club Store Manager, and Megan DeBolt, Club Store Assistant Manager, ship another parcel of great Club merchandise.



# Holiday Happenings 2015

El Pueblo

## Las Posadas Returns To Olvera St.

Mexican Christmas tradition begins again Dec. 16-24.

### Las Posadas On Olvera Street

**What:** Annual cultural Christmas tradition

**When:** Dec. 16 – 24  
Event begins 5:30 p.m.  
Procession from 7 – 8:30 p.m. nightly

**Where:** Olvera Street, Downtown Los Angeles

**Cost:** Free attendance/  
champurrado,  
pan dulce

**Info:** (213) 628-1274

[www.olvera-street.com](http://www.olvera-street.com)

Las Posadas, a Mexican tradition that's one of the City's oldest Christmas events, returns to Olvera Street Dec. 16-24. Each night's festivities run from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The Las Posadas celebration commemorates the journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem and their search for shelter in preparation for to Jesus' birth.

Las Posadas has been played out in Mexico for centuries. The tradition goes back to 1538, when Jesuit priests came to New Spain to convert the natives to Roman Catholicism. At the time, the natives celebrated a nine-day feast honoring the coming of an Aztec sun god. The missionaries used the nine-day framework and adapted it to Christianity. The tradition has thrived for nearly six centuries in Mexico and throughout Latin America.

On Olvera Street, the event will feature a candlelight procession starting at the historic Avila Adobe at approximately 7 p.m. The leaders of the march, usually children, will be dressed as shepherds, angels, and Mary and Joseph. They will be followed by dozens of other worshippers. The public is invited to join in or merely observe.

The procession will run up and down Olvera Street with the group

singing songs in English and Spanish. They will make stops requesting lodging at designated points ("posadas," or stores), but will be denied, usually in song. Eventually they will be admitted. Complimentary champurrado (a Mexican hot beverage) and pan dulce (sweet bread) will be served, and piñatas will burst.



## The Club Store Is Holiday Headquarters!

**A Club Holiday Hit: Club Movie Ticket Packs!** Beautifully wrapped bundles of movie tickets, wrapped and ready to go, at the great Club discount. As always, they're the cheapest in the state: **\$25 - \$26 for each ticket pack.**

Great gifts.  
The Club Christmas Tree.  
The Club Shoe drive.

They're all available  
at the Club Store  
this holiday season.



*Start your holidays at  
the Club Store!*

Also at the Club Store for your holiday shopping:

- ❖ **Gift Central:** Buy fantastic Club merchandise that will be great under your tree.  
*Returning this year:* Free holiday gift boxes and bags, with the purchase of select items.
- ❖ **Great** deals on See's Candies and Honey Baked Hams.
- ❖ **Free standard shipping** on all Club tickets and merchandise!!
- ❖ Visit the **Club Tree!**

*Start your holidays at the Club Store!*

The Club Store is located at:  
120 West 2nd Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012







# Holiday Happenings 2015

## Be a Holiday Angel

This Christmas, help Club Angels bring goods to those in need.

Christmas is the time of giving. Remember those all around us in need by giving to Club Angels.

Club Angels is the Club's umbrella organization that supports the Club's charitable outreach and includes the Buckets and Blankets program, the Club Holiday Toy Drive, and other initiatives.

For more information, see the Club Angels story on page 35.



## Club Store Holiday Schedule

The Club Store will be open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with the following exceptions:

- On Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24, the Club Store will close at 2 p.m.
- Closed Friday, Dec. 25, for Christmas
- On New Year's Eve, Thursday, Dec. 31, the Club Store will close at 2 p.m.
- Closed Friday, Jan. 1 for New Year's Day
- Closed Jan. 4 for annual inventory

### Free Standard Shipping

Free Shipping: If you want your Club Webstore order to arrive by Christmas using the Club's free standard shipping service, the Club recommends you order by the close of business Monday, Dec. 14. Don't wait!

Members can order from the Club Webstore at:

[www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)

### Club Webstore

The Club Webstore will be open 24/7 online, but fulfillment of some orders will be processed according to the above schedule.

The Club Store  
120 West 2nd Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Make your plans now to visit the Club Store for all your holiday shopping and end-of-year insurance needs!



## Harbor

## Christmas by the Sea

### Holidays by the Sea

**What:** Three holiday-themed events  
**When:** Sat., Dec. 5 – 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.; 6 – 9 p.m.; and 7 – 9 p.m.  
**Where:** LA Waterfront  
**Cost:** Free  
**Info:** [www.portofla.org](http://www.portofla.org)

Port celebrates the season with a trio of events Dec. 5.

On Dec. 5, the Port is hosting two events – Holiday of the Seas and Wilmington Winter Wonderland – and sponsoring a third, the LA Holiday Harbor Afloat Parade.

The Wilmington Winter Wonderland.



### Wilmington Winter Wonderland

The forecast calls for snow at Wilmington Waterfront Park – 20 tons of it! Bring the kids and teach them how to make a snowman, even if it's warm and sunny outside. A free family event brought to you by the Port of Los Angeles. 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Holidays by the Sea.



### Holidays by the Sea

This free holiday concert and a visit from Santa at Downtown Harbor features local artists with arts and crafts and an outdoor showing of the 2003 movie, Elf, starring Will Ferrell. 7 – 9 p.m.

A previous Holiday Harbor Afloat Parade.



### Los Angeles Holiday Harbor Afloat Parade

Join harbor community members for this free and festive boat parade on the LA Waterfront, sponsored by the Port. Enjoy the sparkling spectacular parade of boats and celebrate the nation's busiest international trade gateway with this year's playful theme of "Santa's Minions." Before the parade, at 4 p.m., viewers are invited to enjoy holiday festivities at Banning's Landing Community Center in Wilmington. 6-9 p.m. For more information, visit:

<http://www.laharborholidayafloat.org/>

## Rec and Parks

## Skating in The City

Rec and Parks' annual ice skating season in Pershing Square going on now.

A cool place for holiday happenings, Holiday Ice Rink Pershing Square continues its 18th season for ice-skating under the sun and stars in the heart of downtown Los Angeles through Jan. 18.

The event formerly was named Downtown on Ice.

Encircled by towering skyscrapers, the stunning pop-up icescape transforms Pershing Square into a winter wonderland with a host of free community and special events, along with a low skate admission price. The yuletide traditions continue with DJ Thursday nights, skating exhibitions, a Single in the City Skate night, a Snoopy on Ice Showcase, the Winter Holiday Festival and the Polar Bear Skate, among others.

The rink is easily accessible by car, bus or Metro (Pershing Square stop) and there is also convenient underground parking. General admission is \$9. Figure skate and hockey skate rental is \$4. Group rates and private party options are available. Skate session admission tickets can be purchased online in advance or at the rink.

Rec and Parks is a sponsor of the event.



### Holiday Ice Rink Pershing Square

**What:** Ice-skating rink in Pershing Square  
**Where:** 532 S. Olive St. downtown  
**When:** Every day Nov. 12 – Jan. 18  
**Cost:** Skate session admission \$9. Figure and hockey skate rental \$4. Purchase tickets at the rink or in advance at: [www.holidayicerinkdowntownla.com](http://www.holidayicerinkdowntownla.com). Group rates, private party and special event pricing available.

### Hours:

Now – Dec. 17:  
Mon. – Thurs., 11:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.  
Friday, 11:30 a.m. – 11 p.m.  
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Sunday, 10 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.  
Dec. 18 – 30  
10 a.m. – 11 p.m. daily  
Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve):  
10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Dec. 25 (Christmas)  
1 – 9:30 p.m.

Dec. 31 (New Year's Eve)  
10 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Jan. 1 (New Year's Day)  
10 a.m. – 11 p.m.

Jan. 2 – Jan. 18:  
Mon-Thurs.: 11:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.  
Fri.-Sat.: 10 a.m. – 11 p.m.  
Sunday: 10 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.

### Info:

(213) 624.4289  
#HolidayIceRinkDTLA  
Facebook: HolidayIceRinkDTLA  
Twitter: @HolidayRinkDTLA  
Instagram: @HolidayIceRinkDTLA  
<http://holidayicerinkdowntownla.com>



# Holiday Happenings 2015



## Donate to the New Shoe Drive!

As part of its Club Angels program, the Club is gearing up its annual holiday drive for children.

**New for 2015:** a holiday new shoe drive! Held in conjunction with the LAPD Newton Division's *Operation Shoes From Santa*, the Club invites all Club Members to drop off a new pair of shoes – please, new shoes only – for underprivileged children at the Club Store before Friday, Dec. 18 – and we'll take it from there!

(Or you can bring them to the Newton Area's event – information listed on the poster.)

**Please be generous!**

**Bring your donations to:**



City Employees Club of Los Angeles  
120 West 2nd Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(888) 777-1744



Los Angeles Police Department  
Newton Area's

## Operation Shoes from Santa 2015

Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm at Newton Station  
3400 S. Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90011

*Please Donate a New Pair of Shoes for  
Underprivileged School Age Children!*

Drop off shoes in bins @ Newton Area Watch Commanders Office.  
Newton Officers and Santa will distribute the shoes to  
pre-selected children at Newton Station on Dec. 18th

Real Snow to play in, Hot Cocoa & Christmas Treats, Santa's Workshop,  
Santa and his Elves, and Christmas Magic!

An Entirely *Free* Event!  
sponsored by



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
Sergeant Marcela Garcia - Email: 33003@lapd.lacounty.org or Phone: (323) 846-3937  
Follow us on Facebook and Twitter: @newtonlapd

### Rec and Parks

## Victorian Christmas At Banning

The Banning Museum  
to host annual Victorian  
Christmas celebration.



The community is invited to welcome the holiday season at the Banning Museum's Annual Victorian Christmas Celebration and Open House, scheduled from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 5-6 at the Banning Museum, 401 E. "M" St., in Wilmington.

This free event is open to the public and promises to be a weekend to remember. Visitors will enjoy period entertainment, tours of the museum decorated in holiday splendor, refreshments, a children's craft and a horse-drawn trolley ride between the Banning Museum and Drum Barracks Civil War Museum, which is also presenting a Christmas event that weekend.

The Visitor Center will feature a new special exhibit, "88 Years of Cinema: The Banning Museum in Film," highlighting 17 movies filmed at the museum. Back by popular demand, the weekend will also feature a blacksmith and local food and craft vendors. Jolly St. Nick will make a special appearance and pose for photos with the kids.

Also, the annual Victorian Christmas luncheon is scheduled to take place Friday, Dec. 4, in the Banning Museum Stagecoach Barn and feature special live holiday entertainment. Those attending enjoy an elegant plated lunch, a special sneak preview of the Banning Museum decorated for a Victorian Christmas, a tour of the Transportation Exhibition and a special exhibit in our Visitor Center. This event has limited seating and sells out quickly. Reservations are being taken now. Tickets for the special luncheon are \$95 for non-members and \$85 for Friends of Banning Museum Members. Information: (310) 548-2005.

### Banning Museum Victorian Christmas

**When:** Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 5-6  
**Hours:** 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
**Where:** The Banning Museum,  
401 E. "M" St., Wilmington  
**Cost:** Free admission

#### Regular museum tours:

**Dates:** Throughout November and  
December: Tues. – Thurs.:  
12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m.;  
Sat. – Sun.: 12:30, 1:30, 2:30  
and 3:30 p.m.  
Closed Christmas Day

**Cost (regular tours):** \$5 (suggested  
donation; \$1 for children)

**Info:** (310) 548-2005 or  
[www.thebanningmuseum.org](http://www.thebanningmuseum.org)



Zoo



At the entrance to L.A. Zoo Lights are (from left) Club CEO John Hawkins and Zoo Director John Lewis.

### The Alive! Interview

## Building a Holiday Tradition

Club CEO John Hawkins and Alive! editor John Burnes interviewed Zoo Director John Lewis, 12 years of City service, on Dec. 15, 2014, a few weeks after the Zoo Lights event opened for its first year. The interview took place in his office at the Zoo.

#### What's the origin of the LA Zoo Lights attraction? How did it come about?

**John Lewis:** It really came about because the DWP shut down its Griffith Park Lights. We started getting questions about potentially doing some type of a light program here in the zoo, but just like the DWP, we were all going through that recession, so the funding wasn't there. But we kept talking about it, and this year (2014) we started talking about it seriously. (Then) Councilman Tom LaBonge fronted some money to us from his District account, and then, along with the money that GLAZA has raised through sponsorships and fundraising, we put together the budget for the project, and really got going on it seriously. (GLAZA is the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association, a nonprofit organization that's the official support arm of the Zoo.)

#### Had you seen other similar attractions at other Zoos?

**John Lewis:** I have, and it's a real interesting thing that they seem to work really well in some communities, but other communities, they just don't work. We tried them at the zoo I was at in Michigan, and it just didn't work. Part of it was because this time of the year, the weather could be really nice or really nasty, and so, given all the work that we put into it, it wasn't paying for itself, so we quit doing it. And in Battle Creek, Mich., the whole city lights up, so it was hard to compete against that, too.

#### Had you been thinking about doing a similar event like this, since you came?

**John Lewis:** Well, we've been looking to do events that are outside of our normal attendance time. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day is when the zoo is open, and on a lot of days we max out. So we wanted to get more attendance and get them here, but we figured we had to do it at different times, and that's where the Zoo Lights, really made sense – we can do it after the regular hours, and we



Zoo Director John Lewis.

can do it in a time of the year that the attendance wasn't all that great, anyway. So it seems to be working in both of those accounts.

#### How has it been going so far?

**John Lewis:** As of the end of last week, we were a third of the way through the program, and we had already exceeded half of our projection, so it's going very well. At this point, I think we've already sold more than 80,000 tickets online.

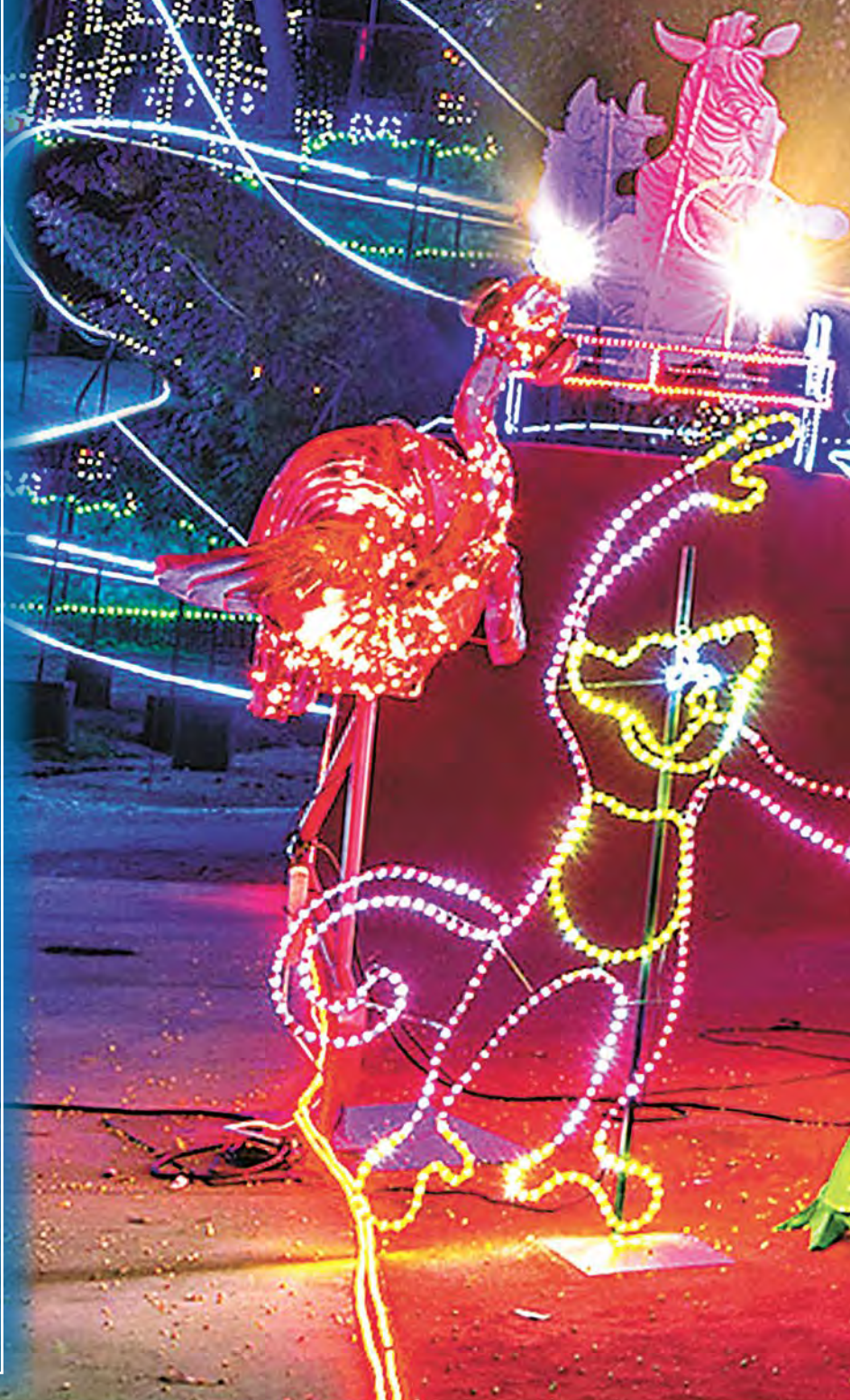
#### No kidding?

**John Lewis:** And a lot of nights, we're selling out online. We save a number to sell at the gate, if people drive out here. But they can look online and see it's going to be really busy. So, yes, it's going great.

#### How did you all get together to make the creative decisions – how did that all happen?

**John Lewis:** Our support organization, GLAZA (the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association), took over the project. They went out and found a design group that does concerts and big, big events, and they started bringing in ideas. We all coalesced around the concepts with the monkeys and the power and all of that. Plus, we wanted to reuse, if we could, a lot of the old DWP lights, and we have – we've incorporated those into the program as well.

– continued, page 26





# Winter Wonderland

City Christmas 2015

## Popular L.A. Zoo Lights celebration expands for a shimmering second year.

*Photos by Summy Lam, Club Director of Marketing; John Burnes, Alive! editor; and Jamie Pham and Tad Motoyama, LA Zoo*

The end of a previous Griffith Park holiday tradition led to the creation of another – L.A. Zoo Lights, which returns in bigger form after a successful inaugural year last year.

L.A. Zoo Lights features breathtaking displays, among them thousands of LED lights, flurries of illuminated snowflakes, 3-D animated projections and glittering light tunnels. A menagerie of animal characters include mischievous animated

monkeys scampering through the grounds, a glowing 130-foot snake coiled on a roof, a hillside with snowboarding “lizards,” 3-D animated elephants wearing colorful holiday sweaters, an origami-type rhino lit from within and so much more.

L.A. Zoo Lights takes over where the DWP’s long tradition of a drive-through Christmas lights event went away several years ago.

“We had been watching these kinds of events across the nation in other zoos, and we felt we had a real opportunity here in Los Angeles because the DWP lights were no longer being staged in Griffith Park,” says Connie Morgan, President of GLAZA, the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association. For more than five decades, the private, nonprofit GLAZA has funded plant and animal exhibits, species conservation, capital projects and education and community outreach programs at the L.A. Zoo. GLAZA also builds and invests endowment funds and funds/operates seven essential departments on behalf of the zoo. It enjoys one of the largest membership bases of all L.A. cultural organizations.

GLAZA manages and promotes the L.A. Zoo Lights event.

“Former Councilman Tom LaBonge wanted to see the lights come back,” Connie continues. “We looked at other zoos and were able to pick out best practices. We’re sitting in a City with many different entertainment opportunities that are all very high quality; we wanted to do something very, very special. And

we wanted to make use of innovators in Los Angeles who could help us achieve something that would be a signature for the zoo.”

The zoo brought in some top talent – Gregg Lacy as artistic set designer, and Bionic League, a lighting design firm.

“Gregg is an incredibly creative individual who’s done a lot of set designs who’s just wonderfully intuitive and thoughtful. Bionic League has lit concerts for Kanye West and others.”

The numbers speak for themselves. “Last year we expected 100,000 people, and we had 177,000 actually attend,” she says. “Last year was just the first year. We’re going for bigger and brighter than ever this year.”

New elements for this year (see sidebar) include lighting up the LAIR reptile house, and there will be a new Santa’s Workshop.

“We’re certainly hoping for the kind of attendance we had last year,” she says. “With good weather and more things happening this year, I hope to surpass that.”

Sponsors of L.A. Zoo Lights are 99 Cent Only Stores, Service Systems Associates, and ScholarShare. Donors include The Georgina Frederick Children’s Foundation, Beth and Joshua Friedman, Larry and Sue Ivanjack, Paramount Pictures, Donald and Susan Rice, the Shultz Family and the employees of the Shultz Steel Company and the Simms Family Foundation. ■

LA ZOO  
LIGHTS  
NOV 27–JAN 3



Connie Morgan, GLAZA President.

An alligator and origami-style rhino are constant hosts along the Zoo Lights trail.



City Christmas 2015

# Winter Wonderland

## The Alive! Interview – continued from page 24

It's also kind of a five-year program. We have about 18 to 20 sets up this year (in 2015), and we're going to add sets each year until, after five years, have the whole thing all put in.

### Will it be more in the same path, or will it be extra paths?

**John Lewis:** Both. We have a few gaps right now, and we'll fill in those gaps, but right now you have to go to the end and turn around and come back. We don't have a loop yet, so we're going to try to create a loop so people don't have to double back on themselves, which actually allows us to allow in a few more people.

### So if sometime in the future you do a full loop – instead of looping back, but a full loop– that will allow you to have more people?

**John Lewis:** I think so. One of our big limits is our parking lot and freeway access. When we get too busy, people get backed up on the 5, and that gets to be a little bit of a problem. And we can park only about 2,200 cars, I believe. So we've been doing some nights right at 8,500 people in those four hours from six to ten. That's a lot. We may have to figure out some other way to get more people, whether that's extending the timeframe or something else.

### The tickets are time-staggered, so when you buy a ticket, you're buying the time?

**John Lewis:** Yes.

### That makes sense.

**John Lewis:** Yes.

### The centerpiece, when you get to the end, is the highways and the red carpet and that whole thing. I've never seen L.A. quite like that. Where did you get that idea?

**John Lewis:** That was from the designers. We were talking about Los Angeles, and at the very end, we thought it'd be a fun kind of play on L.A. to show the animals enjoying the highlights of L.A., which of course partly means the freeways. But we have City Hall and LAX and all of those things, too, so they're there.

### Did you have to buy the lights from the DWP?

**John Lewis:** They loaned them to us this first year, and we're going to work out an agreement where they're actually going to donate them to us, so we didn't have to buy those.

### Are they all LED lights?

**John Lewis:** There may be a few incandescents. But it's mostly LED lights. We're also using lasers, 3-D projections and simulations, so you're going to see a variety of different illuminations. We have fiberglass elephants that we had painted in cultural colors from the various Asian countries. We put gray socks over them, and we're actually projecting elephant pictures onto them in some cases, and it looks like they're moving.

There are also holiday themes. There's packing. There are gingerbread elephants. There are all kinds of stuff.

### What about Santa?

**John Lewis:** Santa is here on the weekends, and that display is probably one of the prettier ones when you see it. They did an ice throne, so it looks like these big cubes of ice that he sits on, and all the lit-up trees and snow– I don't know how to describe them, but these lights that look like snow bubbles that are the ground. It's very pretty.

### People can get pictures with Santa?

**John Lewis:** Yes. We have to manage the lines and the crowds for Santa, who's a union guy.

### What is your biggest night, per week?

**John Lewis:** Fridays and Saturdays are the biggest ones, but Sundays have been strong, too. Sundays have been a surprise, because we thought, with people getting ready to go back to work, that it wouldn't be as strong, but they've been really strong. We're doing 3,000 or 4,000 people during weeknights, so it's been pretty incredible.

### That's awesome.

**John Lewis:** Yes.



Zoo Director John Lewis (right) explains the "power station" concept to Club CEO John Hawkins.

Suddenly I'm seeing ads for this, for the zoo, on television. That may be the first time I've ever seen the zoo advertised on television. And I said, "Well, this is kind of the way it ought to be." In this market, you kind of have to be that broad. Is GLAZA kind of doing the marketing for this event?

**John Lewis:** They are. They're doing the marketing, and they're also doing the staffing. We have zoo staff members who are working the events, too, to protect the animals and the resources, but from a event production standpoint, GLAZA's doing that staffing.

### Did anyone say, "We expected to drive through it," because of the old DWP Lights tradition?

**John Lewis:** Not after they get here, but I've

It's just walking in the nature and the wind and the cold– a little bit of a cold, maybe.

**John Lewis:** Little bit of cold, yes.

### Events: Part of the Mission

#### How does this fit into your mission statement? How does this fit into what it is that the zoo wants to do?

**John Lewis:** It fits in pretty well. The big thing is to get people here to have them enjoy it. If you're from L.A., this is your facility; L.A. County, as well. So we want to share the facility, give people another reason to come back to the institution. We hope to make money, if not this year, in future years. So, as I tell my staff, "More money, more mission." It allows us to do the conservation and educational things that we do, as well. It's really trying to give people an idea of how to use the zoo, and that there's more to it than just a place to go look at animals.

#### Mention some of the other events that you have going on during the year.

**John Lewis:** We do a variety of events. We're doing music in the zoo for the 20-to-30 age group – maybe young couples, or just friends, who don't have kids yet. That's a group that we, a lot of times, will lose. We get kids, we get parents with young kids, and then we get the grandparents with their grandkids. But the young people in their 20s or early 30s, particularly if they don't have families yet, we lose them for a time period, so it gives them a reason to come to the zoo.

We did Brew at the Zoo for the last several years, which has been really successful. Again, what's fun about it is, you come out and it's a different crowd than what we see during the daytime, and that's great. That means other people are using the zoo.

People rent the zoo for parties. We do sleepovers during the year, where you can come out and spend the night at the zoo in tents, and–

#### So there's Zoo Lights and there's the other events that you have throughout the year, but is there something you've always wanted to do?

**John Lewis:** At some point in the future, I'd like to try to extend the hours of the zoo. And it goes back to what we were talking about, trying to give people more access to the zoo. And that we have to work out the staffing plan and the business plan for that, to make it work. San Diego, several years ago, started an evening event that was originally aimed at the tweens and the young 20s, and what they've actually found out is a lot of the families are using it, mostly tourist families. Tourists have done their other things during the day, and they want someplace to just kind of settle down and be quiet, and they go to the zoo and enjoy it. So I think it'd be interesting to try to do some of those kind of things, just find ways to extend the hours for everybody, not just select groups for special events.

One of the limits that we have now, inside the zoo, is that the pathways are only lit in about a third of the zoo. So when we do events, we have to bring in additional lighting or rent lighting. We'll keep plugging along at that, and light up more and more of the zoo so people can use it after dark.

### Learning Experience

#### How long did it take you to set this up?

**John Lewis:** They started right after Halloween. I would imagine they might leave some of the things in place all year so they won't have to put those back: maybe some of the lights up in the woods.

You know the buckets on the big strings that are lit up and come from the power station?

### Right ...

**John Lewis:** ... well, they came from China, and they were stuck with all those other ships out at the port (during a labor dispute), so we were

### Early Reactions

#### What kind of reaction are you hearing about Zoo Lights?

**John Lewis:** It's been very positive, and it's amazing because people are standing in these long lines to get in. The tickets are timed, so we're trying to pulse people through.

But the other thing that staff's been noticing that's kind of fun is the different nights seem to have their own personality. So one night, everybody stops at the elephants. The next night, they stop at another scene, and that seems to be one that gets everybody's attention. But they've been doing really well. I mean, it seems to be a quiet crowd. They're enjoying the zoo. They're buying gifts and churros and hot chocolate and all those things, you know? So they're spending money after they get here, so it's really working out well.

had that question before. Originally, Councilman LaBonge thought maybe we could do it on our service road around the perimeter of the zoo, so people could still drive through it, but it wasn't easy enough for people to navigate, and so we weren't able to do that.

#### That would also hurt the business side of it, as well.

**John Lewis:** Yes.

One of the issues neighbors had with the DWP Lights was all the vehicles in their neighborhood, as well as the exhaust. And so the DWP added some walking trails the last three or four years. When the neighbors heard that we were doing it, they were all happy that people have to get out and walk.

#### It's a different experience.

**John Lewis:** Very much.

– continued, page 28



# ILLUMINATING THE PATH

Here's a glimpse of the displays you'll see when you visit Zoo Lights (new attractions not included).

## LA ZOO LIGHTS NOV 27–JAN 3

**What:** LA Zoo Lights, an immersive display of lights that guests walk through

**New for 2015:** Bigger and better is promised, plus special VIP events (extra fee)

**When:** Through Jan. 3 (nightly except Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

**Time:** Mon.-Thurs: 6 - 11 p.m.; Fri.-Sun., Dec. 21-23: 6 - 11 p.m.

**Cost:** Requires a separate admission: \$13 for adults/seniors and \$11 for children 2-12; for Zoo Association members, tickets are \$11 for adults/seniors and \$10 for children; children under age two are free.

**Tickets Available:** Now. Online: [LAZoolights.org](http://LAZoolights.org)

**Location:** LA Zoo and Botanical Gardens, Griffith Park, 5355 Zoo Dr.

**Parking:** Free

**Info:** (323) 644-6042 or [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org)

## New for 2015

*In addition to more lights, displays, décor, effects and a larger general area, here are some specific enhancements for 2015:*

### ILLUMINATED LAIR

The event's biggest expansion this year takes place in and around The LAIR (Living Amphibians, Invertebrates, and Reptiles), which boasts a giant 130-foot illuminated snake gazing down from the rooftop, flicking its tongue as guests enter the building. Inside The Lair, guests find themselves bathed in ultraviolet light with glowing webs, orbs, and "insects" of all kinds on the rock walls. In the LAIR courtyard, guests will witness snowboarding iguanas on a sparkly, frosty hillside.

### 'Aquatic' Show

Guests will encounter a holiday aquatic show boasting lighted fountains and shooting screens of water with majestic projections of fanciful animations set to music.

### Santa's Village

The re-imagined Santa's Village is in an all-new, glittering Alpine setting, the perfect location for magical holiday photos (additional fee).

### VIP EXPERIENCES

Also new this year are two "VIP Experiences," including an exclusive holiday happy hour for the 21-and-up crowd, and a family New Year's Eve for all ages:

**Holiday Happy Hour:** The Holiday Happy Hour on Sat., Dec. 12, features "skip-the-line" express entry to L.A. Zoo Lights with a private lounge from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. boasting hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine and hot and cold specialty cocktails. Tickets for the holiday happy hour are \$75 per person.

**Family New Year's Eve:** The family New Year's Eve at 6 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 31, provides an opportunity to celebrate the coming of 2016 in style with "skip-the-line" express entry to L.A. Zoo Lights, dinner buffet, soft drinks, complimentary Champagne for adults, sparkling apple cider for kids, dessert, a ride on the Zoo's special conservation carousel, crafts for youngsters, DJ dance party, cash bar and live broadcast of New York's Times Square ball drop at 9 p.m., after which guests are welcome to experience L.A. Zoo Lights until closing. Family New Year's Eve tickets are \$65 for adults and \$40 for children, or \$60 (adults) and \$35 (children) for GLAZA members.

Tickets for both VIP Experiences have limited availability, so early purchase is strongly suggested.

## THE POWER STATION

The concept of the attraction is that the power required for all the illuminations is supplied by a central "power station" operated by "monkeys" (the illuminated ones).

The concept: This "power station" generates the electricity for the festive lights.



Illuminated monkeys hang from a "power line."



These illuminated tubes emanate from the "power station" and head along the Zoo Lights pathway.



City Christmas 2015

# Winter Wonderland

## The Highlights of LA

The main attraction near the end of the walk is a large-scale imagining of the highlights of Los Angeles – City Hall, highways ... and a red carpet entrance, starring the zoo's illuminated animals. We're giving you only a taste of this large area so you can discover it for yourself!

### The Alive! Interview

– continued, page 26

worried they wouldn't make it on time, and then we got the luck of the draw. They literally got here about two days before our deadline. If they didn't make it, we weren't going to be able to do it. So that'll be something a little bit easier in the following years.

#### What are you learning?

**John Lewis:** How interactive our visitors are. As the teams were decorating some things, they had to move them around because people started playing with them. And they put the – I call them disco balls that are up in the trees, and they had to raise them about another five feet because of all the basketball-player kids who were here, and jumping up trying to tap them.



From left: *Alive!* editor John Burnes; Club CEO John Hawkins; and Zoo Director John Lewis.

#### It's not supposed to be interactive.

**John Lewis:** No, not that way!

#### When kids walk away, or their parents, what do you want them to be thinking as they're getting into their car?

**John Lewis:** I want them to be thinking, "That was really fun, and I like the zoo." The reason is, while we may be trying to share information about wildlife and the conservation issues and the threats, and educate them about wildlife and the environment, most people, when they get up on Saturday morning, don't say, "Where can we go today for an enlightening educational opportunity?" It's, "Where can we go together and have fun and be safe?" And that's what we want them to think of the zoo when they come here: "We're safe. I'm with people I like. We had a great time. I'll remember that when I grow up." That's the kind of thing we want kids to take away.

#### And it's family time, too.

**John Lewis:** Absolutely.

#### It's something for families to come together and do: a new tradition.

**John Lewis:** That's what we're hoping.

### Holiday Tradition

#### What do you love about the L.A. Zoo Lights? What part of it really makes you, pardon the expression, "light up?"

**John Lewis:** Seeing people having a good time. One of the things that we're selling are these little light-up toys that you see at carnivals and other things, but you just see the kids with them, and some of them are like a magic wand. It's a little star, and they're waving them and laughing and giggling and having a good time. I think that's still what I enjoy, just seeing everybody having a good time together.

#### What would your invitation be, in your own words, to people reading this?

**John Lewis:** My invitation is to make your plans early, get online and get your tickets, and get out here early to see it. It's a lot of fun. You're going to meet a lot of people when you get here, so enjoy that, too. I hope it will be a new tradition here in Los Angeles and in Griffith Park.

#### Thank you.

**John Lewis:** You're welcome. ■

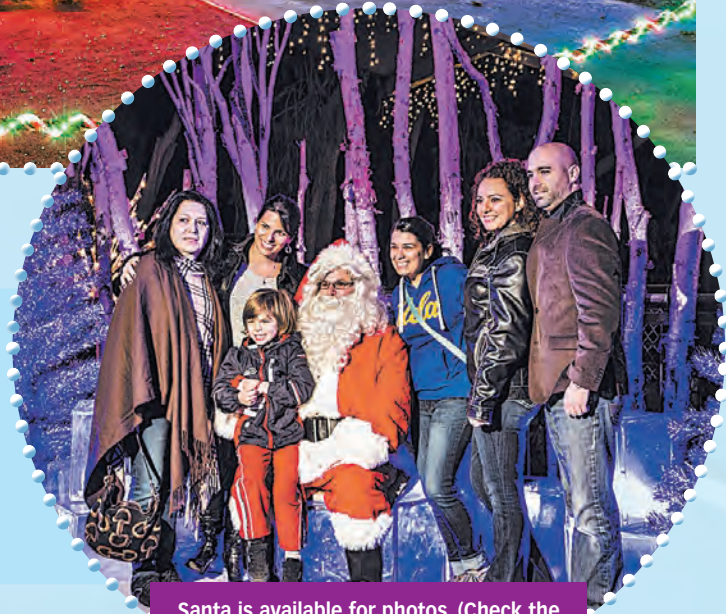
An alligator, monkey, flamingo and rhino walk the red carpet.



## Santa

Don't forget to have your picture taken with Santa Claus! (Additional fees apply for the photo.) The Zoo is promising an awesome, upgraded Santa area for 2015.

**Make sure to check the Zoo Lights Website for Santa's schedule.**



Santa is available for photos. (Check the Website for times and additional fees.)

## Last Stop: Time for a Treat

Before your night is finished, make sure to stop by the concession stand for warm beverages and toys and treats for the family.



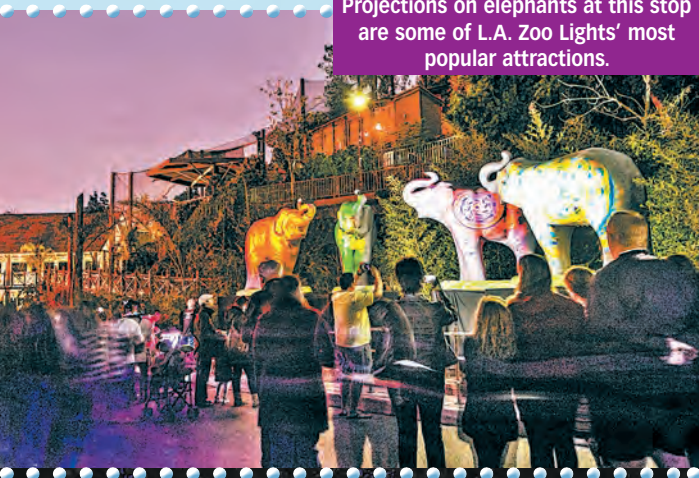
Gorgeous lighting surrounds a concession stand (background).





LA ZOO  
LIGHTS  
NOV 27–JAN 3

Projections on elephants at this stop are some of L.A. Zoo Lights' most popular attractions.



Graceful projections are a part of L.A. Zoo Lights.

# Delights Along the Way

There are many delights for the eye along the 90-minute path. Here are some of them.



Guests can also walk under the lights.



Ice-blue lighting casts a wonderland glow.



Illuminated alligators and rhinos lend an animal theme to the attraction.

Gorgeous white and ice-blue lighting casts a wonderland glow.







# Rest Insured

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

## Protecting Against Uninsured Motorists

We frequently get asked: "Why am I paying for uninsured motorists on my policy?" This is the charge that you pay in case you get hit by a driver who doesn't have insurance. Although it is legally required in California to carry car insurance, state officials estimate that 22 percent of all drivers in California do not have car insurance. Officials also acknowledge that the percentage is probably "significantly higher" than that in Los Angeles County.



Uninsured motorist coverage is coverage you purchase from your own insurance company that pays for bodily injury losses to you and your passengers from an accident with a driver who is legally responsible for the injuries, but has no liability coverage.

The odds of you being involved in a fender-bender and discovering that the at-fault driver is uninsured are fairly high. In that unpleasant situation, your auto insurance will kick into gear if you have uninsured motorist protection (known as UM coverage). Think of UM coverage as an important self-help tool that generally is pretty affordable. It's important for people to protect themselves in case they get into an accident with someone who either has no auto insurance or doesn't have enough coverage.

Without UM coverage, you have little likelihood of gaining payment for damages you or your vehicle sustain if you're involved in an accident with a driver who is either underinsured or driving without any coverage. UM coverage is an important protection for people because it protects them in situations they can't plan for. Without the coverage, their only recourse may be to sue an individual to cover their losses if that other driver doesn't have insurance or enough insurance.

In some cases, UM coverage also covers you if a "hit-and-run" motorist hits your vehicle. UM coverage also provides protection for under-insured motorists. UM pays you for damages that surpass the amount of coverage carried by a driver who is underinsured. That is incredibly valuable, because many drivers carry minimum limits, and that may be insufficient to cover your injuries and the damages to your vehicle.

UM coverage can help you in another way: if you are a pedestrian. If you carry UM coverage and you get hit by a car while you're trying to cross the street, the coverage could pay your medical expenses and lost wages while you recuperate. UM coverage also extends to your family members living in your house who are hit as pedestrians or hit in a vehicle they are occupying.

Unfortunately, many people realize too late the importance of UM coverage – after they or their family members have already been injured by an uninsured or underinsured motorist. UM coverage is not mandatory in California, it is a voluntary form of insurance offered by all automobile insurance companies.

It is very common for people to purchase the minimum amount of UM coverage, which is a decision they sometimes regret once they are involved in an accident with an uninsured motorist. For example, you might purchase \$100,000 in liability coverage, which would cover that driver in an accident for which he or she is at fault, but only \$15,000 in UM coverage. If you are involved in an accident with an uninsured driver who is liable for the accident, you will be entitled to receive only up to \$15,000 for your losses, no matter how much they really are. Accordingly, you should consider purchasing as much UM coverage as you can, and at least as much as your regular coverage.

To receive your uninsured benefits under UM coverage, you must be able to verify that the other driver was in fact uninsured. This is usually fairly simple, yet it is your responsibility to produce evidence, such as a statement from the driver's insurance company confirming a lack of insurance. Next, you must prove that the uninsured driver caused the accident. Fault is easier to prove in some cases than in others. In any accident situation, you should do the following:

1. Obtain as many witness names, addresses and telephone numbers as possible
2. Call the police and be sure to get a copy of the accident report
3. Take as many notes about the accident as possible
4. Be evaluated at the nearest emergency room and diligently follow your doctor's advice.

Uninsured motorist coverage protects you in the event you are injured by someone who does not have adequate insurance to compensate you for your injuries. It is important that you ask your insurance agent how much it would cost to add or increase this coverage.

### About United Agencies

United Agencies is the Club's Partner is 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](http://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 [jgelineau@unitedagencies.com](mailto:jgelineau@unitedagencies.com) and I will try to answer your question in one of our monthly columns.

LAPD, County Sheriff

# RUN TO REMEMBER

## HALF MARATHON AND 10K RUN

# JANUARY 24, 2016

REGISTER AT [RUNTOREMEMBERLA.ORG](http://RUNTOREMEMBERLA.ORG)



# Run to Remember

Outside organization holding inaugural First Responders charity run Jan. 24.



Jan. 24, 2016



At a previous Run to Remember in Boston, where the event began.

duce the race here in Southern California.

The race will start at the Grove, wind through the streets of LA and Hollywood before returning to the finish line area. The race will run through Paramount Studios. On the back lot, there will be a red carpet water stop complete with paparazzi, and the runners will run through the New York Street set. Prior to leaving the Studio there will be a powerful tribute to all First Responders with special tributes to those we have lost.

The race is an excellent opportunity for the entire community to show public support to the work that First Responders do every day. Registration is open to everyone. It is only the First Responder Challenge awards that are limited to active First Responders.

First Responders Challenge: The First Responder Challenge is an important part of the Run to Remember. It's a team event that can include five or more runners from any First Responder department across the country.

These teams/departments will then compete in the half marathon for a chance to win bragging rights and a cash prize for the charity of their choice. The total prize purse is \$10,000.

**Registration fees are:**

Half-marathon:	\$105
10K:	\$50
Children (12 and under)	Free

**To register, or for more information: [www.runtorememberLA.org](http://www.runtorememberLA.org)**



# EAT AND BE HAPPY

this Christmas with great Club deals on Honey Baked Hams and See's Candies!

– Go to the Club Webstore for details: [cityemployeesclub.com](http://cityemployeesclub.com)



# CLUB SPORTS

News from Sports Leagues  
sponsored by the City Employees  
Club of Los Angeles • Dec. 2015

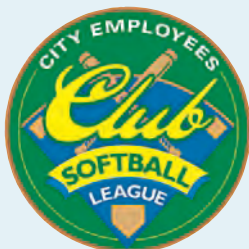


## GAME LOCATIONS:

**Yosemite Recreation Center**  
1840 Yosemite Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 90041

**Shatto Recreation Center**  
3191 4th St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90020

**Lincoln Park  
Recreation Center**  
3529 N. Mission Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90031



## Softball: Come and Crown the Champions!

**The Club's 2015 Softball League is gearing up for an exciting conclusion!**

Come out and support your favorite teams and co-workers! See the schedule for times and locations for the playoffs and championship games.

Watching a Club Softball League team is fun ... and free! There are cheerleaders, DJs, your workmates in nice uniforms, all free. And you can volunteer, too.

**We'll see you there!**

### Club Softball 2015: Mark Your Calendars!

Here are some important dates to remember as the Club Softball League heads toward its fantastic conclusion. Come on out and support your favorite teams and City Employees!

#### Dec. 2: Division A Playoffs

Yosemite Park

**7:30 pm Third place vs. Second place**

**9 pm Fourth place vs. First place**

#### Dec. 9: Championships!

Yosemite Park

**7:30 pm Division B**

**9 pm Division A**

The National Anthem sung by LAPD Officer Rosalind Curry (7:25 pm)



### From the Commish:

## Softball League Barreling to Exciting Conclusion, Spies Say

The Club Softball League's free-agent team Game Time found itself with a shortage of players Nov. 18, and so Agent 37 (yours truly) had to step in and join them. So some of this month's recap comes from my spies (Agent Nine and Agent Zero) reporting on Division B playoffs at Shatto Park. It was a very highly confidential and possibly dangerous mission, but they decided to accept it.

They embarked upon DoTgers (second place) hosting Killawatts (third place) and Transformers (first place) hosting Left Turns Only (LTO) (fourth place), in their playoffs Nov. 18. Agent Nine reported that the DoTgers took a small lead in the first inning and then topped it off with one additional run in the second. Further, a player from Killawatts smashed the ball for a three-run homer over the wall in dead center field. If you haven't been to Shatto Park,

the outfield is surrounded by supermarket walls. The tallest wall is in dead center. Sounds like someone didn't check bats (Javi)!

Agent Zero reported that the Killawatts finally took the lead in the fifth inning by one run and added two additional runs in the top of the sixth, taking a two-run lead. DoTgers answered back by scoring two runs in the bottom of the sixth, and again in the bottom of the seventh, tying the score, 6-6, Agent Nine reported. Agent Zero, a rather agile person, went out to centerfield and climbed the tree to obtain a more covert vantage point and recorded three Killawatt runs in the top of the eighth inning, which the DoTgers could not answer back. Final score: Killawatts 9, DoTgers 6.

Agent Zero preferred this new inconspicuity (*this is not a word, so stop trying to look it up*) and described the 9 p.m. game between Left Turns Only (LTO) and Transformers from the tree-view perspective. LTO made nine left turns in the first inning and three more left turns in the second to take the lead by four runs. The Transformers, as reported by Agent Nine, scored three runs in the second. Some reports list this as a tie, but we all know three and four are two different numbers. Nevertheless, the exciting game continued. As I read the reports by the agents, it appears that this game was neck and neck in

every inning until the top of the seventh, when LTO scored nine runs, silencing Transformers for the rest of the season.

The November issue of *Alive!* laid out the plight of Club's free agent team GameTime. At the time I write this, Sluggers and GameTime are both tied for fourth place, and only one can be invited to play in the playoffs. The results from the Nov. 18 games could provide some separation, but Sluggers and GameTime both won their individual games, so they are tied again. Their tiebreaker game might be held Dec. 2, just about the time you're opening up this newspaper.

At Yosemite Park the earlier game between Sluggers and Sewer Rats was filled with excitement. These two teams were tied until inning four when Sluggers scored six runs, again and again. In the bottom of the sixth, with the score 24-7 and an entire hour expended, Sluggers could not accept the win without going another round of scoring yet more runs. Did they have some ulterior motive they'd rather not reveal? Of course! It's that frightening run-differential effect – they could still lose the chance to win the fourth-place spot due to run-differential if they didn't earn more runs. With their chance to score unlimited runs, they could see scoring 30, 40, 50 runs in their last two minutes of the game. These Slugger agents may have thought they had the mojo to pull that off, too, but we didn't have all night and it was cold. With regard to the open inning, for the very first time this season I had to refer to the rulebook. (This league is growing more and more awesome every year.)

Check out [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com) in the Member benefits/Club Sports League/softball page for updated season-ending schedules. Tentatively, the tiebreaker game may be scheduled for Dec. 2, Division A playoffs Dec. 9, and League Championships Dec. 16. Mark your calendars and hope to see you out there!

The Championship games will be filled with music, entertainment, chances to win prizes and opportunities to bring the family to meet your teammates, co-workers and friends. The National Anthem will be sung by LAPD Officer Rosalind Curry; DJ G-Swang (Garens Lloyd) is invited back on the ones and twos, and all the league hecklers/fans, bleacher DJs and roaming information booths will all be there to share in this great event with you, but you have to be there also. Again, this assignment may be dangerous, should you choose to take it. You don't have to fly solo; you may invite as many people as you want. But if you get caught, we never knew you. *This message will self-destruct in five seconds.*

Check the webpage as to not miss a thing.

**Batter up!**

**Lady Smith,  
The Commish**

**Returning for 2015:**  
The Softball Commish, Lady Smith! Read Lady's comments each month in *Alive!* during the softball season.



**NFL  
TICKETS!**

**The Club Store still has a limited number of tickets to some remaining Chargers and Raiders games.**

The Sports Dude is excited to announce that the Club offers discounted tickets to **Chargers** and **Raiders** football games for the current season!

Visit the Club Store in person for specific game information or at the Club Webstore at [www.cityemployeesclub.com](http://www.cityemployeesclub.com)

**Robert Larios,  
The Sports  
Dude**



### Club Sports on the Horizon

The Club Sports Office welcomes all individual players to inquire about the Club's sports leagues. Currently, the Club is coordinating efforts for **basketball, bowling and softball.**

Please contact [sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com) or call the Club at (800) 464-0452 to be placed as a free agent or for more information.

Images of past sporting events can be found on the Club website at: [photos.cityemployeesclub.com/ClubSports](http://photos.cityemployeesclub.com/ClubSports)





# John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO



“My son and I visited Trick Eye Museum in Hong Kong this summer in August. There are lots of trick-eye paintings. My son just summoned the elephant to pull him up from the cliff.”

– Evelyn Auyeung

**John's comment:** Very cool picture, Evelyn! Nothing like enlisting the help of an elephant when needed!

“Parts of a rain we rarely look at.” – John Nance, Retired, DWP

**John's comment:** John, I always like close-ups, but this one is so sharp and clear. And you are right, you rarely see rain like this. Thank you!



“This is an old photo from our last really big snowstorm in 2008-09, where we got a massive amount of snow in a two-week period. It's one of my favorites, so I just had to share it with you.”

– Jill Weiszmann

**John's comment:** Normally I'm not a cold-weather person, but this shot makes me want to live where it snows. All I need is a cup of hot chocolate and a warm sweater. Thanks, Jill!

“Here's a surfer riding the waves and holding on to his board.”

– Victor Ladd, LAPD

**John's comment:** Now that is timing. It's not easy capturing items so sharp and clear with split-second accuracy from such a distance. Excellent photo, Victor!



“I took this picture one lucky morning at work here at Berth 68 in San Pedro.”

– Raymond Maese, Harbor

**John's comment:** Raymond, I am a sucker for sunsets, especially ones with such awesome framing. The fishing boat, the palm trees, the sky ... just perfect!



“The Baha'i House of Worship of North America is a temple that welcomes all faiths. The Illinois Office of Tourism has named it one of the 'Seven Wonders of Illinois.' Thanks!”

– Linda Wang, Accountant II, Accounting Operations

**John's comment:** I absolutely love this shot – the angle at which you shot it makes the temple just jump up out of the ground, and the lighting is superb! (And I like how the tree makes a subtle entrance to the overall landscape.) How you were able to get the sun from blowing out the shaded building is a mystery to me. Good work!

## RULES:

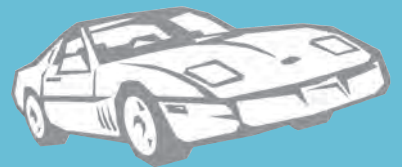
- The contest is open to all Club members in good standing. Non-members are welcome to submit, but only Club members are eligible to win the monthly prize.
- If your photograph does not win, you are welcome to re-submit.
- Winners are chosen by Club staff. All decisions will be final.
- You must certify (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@cityemployees-club.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.





## The Car Club

By EVERETT BENNETT, Inspector,  
Public Works/Contract Administration



# 50-Year Patina Shines Bright

The often dreaded 50th birthday happens to all of us, or so we hope, in a strange way. I don't think anyone is ever anxious for it, because we have all heard what happens on the other side of the hill. Hopes of remaining slim go out the window along with that once full head of hair and smooth skin. I would imagine when turning half a century old, it's hard to not look back at where you have been, what you have accomplished, and what you have seen.

The 1965 Chevy truck celebrated its 50th this year; as with all the 1961 – 66 Chevy trucks, they are more popular than ever. Prices on them in all sorts of conditions have gone through the roof. Some enthusiasts fully restore them, but the majority of enthusiasts leave them original, or at least appearing that way. Suspension upgrades, a new fuel-injected motor and air conditioning make up the to-do list. The list remains short and attainable. The body and interior keep their original form. Many call them "patina trucks" or the ever-so-awful term that I despise, "rat rods." I'd rather listen to Miley Cyrus nonstop for days than hear that term.

Det. Brent Phillips is a 16-year veteran with the LAPD and, like myself, grew up wanting a truck. After tying the knot, buying a new house and having empty space in the garage for a toy, Brent wanted to fill that void with a 1967 Chevy C10 truck. In the long search that ensued, his wife, Samantha, found a 1965 Chevy C10 on Craigslist that caught his eye, was local and in his price range. It wasn't a '67 but it had an amazing look. After an inspection of the truck and a day or two of decision-making, he placed the call to the owner and delivered a handful of cash.

The truck came with a beautifully restored engine compartment and a rebuilt small block 350 engine. The previous owner opted to not put an automatic transmission in it, but keep the stock manual three-speed. The suspension was rebuilt with new ball joints and while work was being done to ensure optimum handling and ride,

an altitude adjustment was also completed. A set of Bell Tech 4-inch drop springs in the rear and a combination of drop springs and spindles in front brought the nose of the truck down to a more appealing position.

The exterior and interior have remained unmolested except for the previous owner's removing the rear bumper and installing a "roll pan." Brent found the 1980s Chevy hubcaps at a local swap meet. This style of truck is not for everyone. Brent continues to be asked the question, "When are you going to paint it?" It won't get painted but it will probably continue to get a scratch or two and dent here and there. Every scratch, every dent, water spot, rust area has a story.

I can't say enough good things about this truck. It runs and rides great and was an amazing find. I can only dream about finding one this perfect. It isn't too low where you are dodging potholes and small bumps, and when you park next to the hipster in the parking lot, you need not worry about his skinny jeans scratching the paint or his beard oil leaking on the chrome while he scratches his head wondering why he ever bought a Prius.

This beautiful specimen is driven once a week, usually to a swap meet or car show. Old cars are like owning a home – there is always something to do or that you want to do. Brent may have plans for an airbag suspension and other upgrades in the future, but for now, he, his wife, Samantha, and daughter, Olivia, will continue to just enjoy it and show it love, I hope for the next 50 years.



Det. Brent Phillips, LAPD, inside his '65 Chevy C10.



Brent's 1965 Chevy C10 pickup.



Det. Brent Phillips, LAPD, and his daughter, Olivia.



Send in a photo of you and your car, and we might publish it!

Send us your information too – name, title and City department, a phone number (we won't print it) and a paragraph about why you love your car, what kind of car and year it is and some fun details of how you got it, how you restored it, etc. Send it all to: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



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{ Who are the people you see every day? }

# People We See

Shelterless in Los Angeles.

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**No. 79**  
in a series.



## Meet Leo Brooks.

**AGE:** "I'm 54."  
**BIRTHPLACE:** "Houston, Texas"  
**MARITAL STATUS:** "Nope."  
**FAMILY:** "I have two brothers and one sister."  
**EDUCATION:**  
"I dropped out after 11th grade. I was smoking pot and drinking too much. My parents warned me; they told me to stop messing around and to stay in school. They told me to stop hanging out with my bad friends. They said that if I put as much effort into something productive as I did with drugs and drinking that I would be successful. I should have listened to them. This is why I am where I am today. I wouldn't be living on the streets; I wouldn't have been in jail five times for robbery. But I'm stubborn."  
**MILITARY SERVICE:** "No."  
**RELIGION:** "Baptist."  
**SPORTS:** "I played basketball."  
**WHEN MOVED TO L.A.:**  
"In 1987. My cousin's dad was a contractor, so I came out to work construction with them. I mainly did landscaping-type stuff."  
**WHERE DO YOU LIVE?**  
"Here on the street. I don't want to do the missions 'cause there are too many rules."  
**FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY:**  
"The beach, Santa Monica. I like to just sit there and listen to the waves and look at Catalina."  
**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "*The Godfather*."  
**FAVORITE TV SHOW:** "*Law and Order*."  
**FAVORITE ACTOR:** "Robert De Niro."  
**FAVORITE ACTRESS:** "Angelina Jolie."  
**FAVORITE FOOD:**  
"I love chicken-fried steak, green beans, mashed potatoes and gravy and rolls. You guys are making me hungry."  
**FAVORITE CANDY:**  
"Now and Laters, and Nestlé Crunch. Oh, and Oh Henrys!"  
**FAVORITE MUSIC:** "Everything."  
**LAST JOB:** "I was doing construction a while ago."  
**FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY:**  
"I remember playing with toys and eating lots of candy, which is why my teeth are in such bad shape."  
**LAST THING EATEN:** "I still have some of it – it was a hamburger from earlier today. I got it for five bucks over on Hill. My mom still sends me money by Western Union when I ask."  
**IF GIVEN \$1 MILLION:**  
"I would first donate some money to churches and missions. My heart has changed from being hard to soft. I'm not ignorant anymore, and now I want to help people. But after that I would buy land. I would build bungalows and apartments."  
**MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:** "My Bible."  
**ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE:**  
"Listen to your parents: Stay away from drugs. Be productive."

*The Club gave Leo a Bucket and a Blanket, a toothbrush and toothpaste, soap, two pairs of socks, shampoo, hand wipes, some food, \$20 and bottled water.*

*The interview, conducted by John Hawkins, took place Nov. 20 downtown. Photos by Angel Gomez.*

## Buckets and Blankets!

Join us as we help those who live on the streets with Buckets and Blankets. Donate to the cause as the Club distributes food, toiletries and blankets to those in need (blankets cost \$7 each).



**Buckets and Blankets** is produced in cooperation with the **Club Angels** program and **Cre8tive Solutions**—Fred Fowlks and Sue Manzo, LAFD.

Contact John Hawkins or Angel Gomez, and we'll take it from there:

[jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com) or  
[agomez@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:agomez@cityemployeesclub.com)

CRE 8 TIVE  
FORCE  
SOLUTIONS



Leo Brooks with Club CEO, John Hawkins.

{ In this monthly feature, Club CEO John Hawkins, and Director of Sales 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 Club

# Here Come the Refund Checks!

The Club's Life Insurance refund for 2015 is approximately \$150,000. Are you eligible?

Brian, your Club CFO says...

Here come the refund checks ... to your mailbox!

The Board of Directors has approved a Club Life Insurance refund of approximately \$150,000 to be distributed back to the eligible Club members.

The Club continues its tradition of rewarding Club Life Insurance policyholders with a return of unused premiums (total premiums collected less paid claims and expenses). The 2015 refund will be the Club's 84th refund in the Club's 87 years of existence.

The refund checks will be distributed via the U.S. Mail. The checks will be mailed in late December.

"Club Life Insurance is all about being there when our Members are in need," says Brian Trent, the Club's Chief Financial Officer. "That's our first priority. And when we can, we are happy to return that portion of the premiums that are not needed. We've returned funds in 84 of our 87 years."

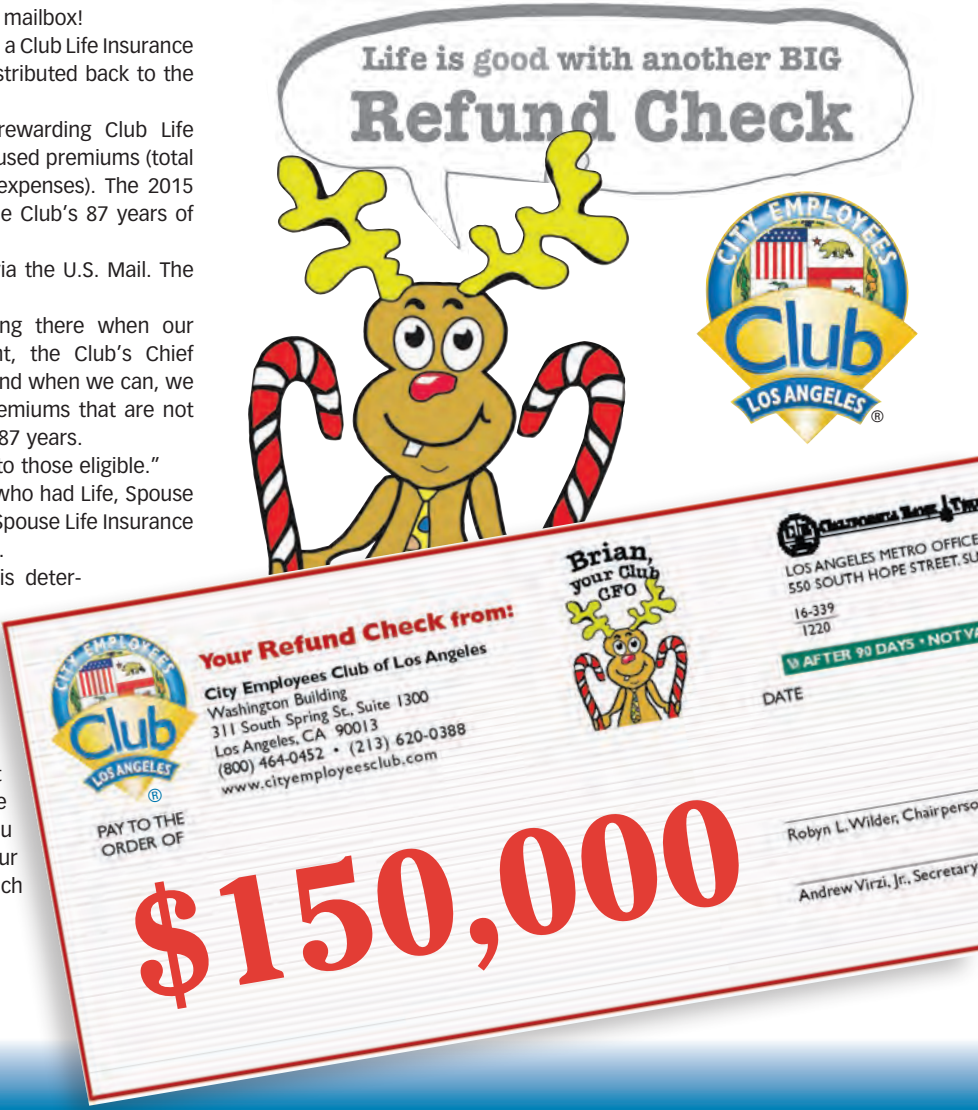
"We're delighted to return these funds to those eligible."

Who is eligible for the refund? Anyone who had Life, Spouse Life, Dependent Life, Retiree Life or Retiree Spouse Life Insurance in force for July 2015 is eligible for a refund.

The actual amount Members receive is determined as a percentage of the total premiums paid by an individual for the period of August 2014 through July 2015. However, those who dropped their insurance coverage prior to July 31, 2015, are not eligible for any refund.

Do you want to be eligible for next year's refund (if any)? It's simple. Purchase any Life product from the Club, and you could be eligible for next year. Insure your family's future and receive a little reward each year for living!

Talk to your Club Counselor, or call the Club at (800) 464-0452.



## SEEING IS BELIEVING

this Christmas with great Club deals on See's Candies!

– Go to the Club Webstore for details: [cityemployeesclub.com](http://cityemployeesclub.com)

# Club Angels: Won't You Help?

Club's charity, Club Angels, continues its campaign to help those around us in need.

During the fall and winter, Club Angels, the Club's charity, helps those around us in need with blankets and buckets of supplies, and other forms of assistance.

Club Members can give to this full-fledged charity.

Club Angels is the Club's umbrella organization that supports the Club's charitable outreach. Los Angeles City Employees Charities, Inc. – the Club Angels program – is a Club-derived charity that formalizes the Club's charitable initiatives. Club Angels now includes the charitable outreaches you read about here in *Alive!* – including the Buckets and Blankets program, plus the Joannie Mukai Club Scholarships, the Club

Holiday Toy Drive, and other initiatives – and builds a framework for others to come.

John Hawkins, Club Angels board member, said: "A bucket of personal goods and a blanket during the cold months can make a huge difference to those living on the streets. We all can make a difference."

**Helping Those in Need**

In 2012, the charity's first year, Club Angels raised more than \$2,100. With that sum, Club Angels bought more than 300 blankets for the residents of the streets of downtown Los Angeles. Club Angels contributed the remainder to the Mukai Scholarships and other City Employees charities.



## How to Help

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

☐ Enclosed is my check (made out to Club Angels) for \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ Please bill my credit card in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.



Name on Card

Card Number

Expiration  -  CV#  Last 3 digits on back of card

Signature



Send this completed 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:

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Home Street Address

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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.

Your donations will be acknowledged with official letters of receipt.





## The Smart Move

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

### In Planning Retirement, Avoid Temptations Today

Retiring today looks a whole lot different than we may have perceived when we were 30 or 40 years younger. When our parents went into retirement back then, Social Security looked secure, pensions were healthy, and the stock market had some semblance of stability. Things have changed, and it's important that we take a look at the retirement landscape of today

them pay for an overly expensive school you're doing them a favor. You're forcing them to consider both the cost and benefit of their degree choice. They're less likely to choose an unmarketable major. A bad major could haunt them for years.

**Don't** let "living large" today cause you to live very small later. We're awash in premium products, everything from our breakfast cereal to the home we live in. And luxury products are much more expensive than the more typical choices. All those premium choices add up and deplete your savings, too.

**Don't** enable others in their financial bad behavior. We all want to help friends and neighbors who have been hurt by the recession. And we should help when we can. But, if we're giving or lending money to someone who's not making an effort to bring their expenses in line with income, we're just delaying the inevitable. Sooner or later they'll run out of money, both theirs and ours.

**Don't** overreach trying to make up for recent losses. Don't try to adjust your investments to make that up quickly. You'll be taking on unnecessary risk. You're still young enough to invest for the long haul.

**Don't** panic over changes in your retirement portfolio. Markets will move up and down. After taking

some losses it's tempting to pull everything out. Don't do it. Barring bad fortune, you can expect to live into your 80s. That leaves plenty of time for a balanced portfolio to recover losses.

**Don't** underestimate your target. One rough tool used by planners is that you can safely take five percent of your savings each year. So for every \$10,000 in income you want, you'll need to save \$200,000.

**Don't** assume a traditional retirement. Begin to consider what your retirement might look like. Many boomers are choosing to continue to work part-time or to start an entirely different career. In some cases they're beginning to lay the foundation now. There will be more options available for boomers as they get into their 60s.

**Do** take a look at your lifestyle and behaviors to see what might be keeping you from preparing for a comfortable retirement. Saving for retirement isn't an impossible challenge, even if you've taken a hit in the most recent recession. The trick is to remember that it's not a sprint. It's a marathon. Make a little progress every month and you'll cover a lot of ground in 10 or more years!

Dearborn National Insurance is the Club's partner for three areas – critical illness insurance, retirement income and accident medical expense insurance. Currently the Club offers three Dearborn products – the Security Builder Plan, the Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan and the Accident Medical Expense Plan. Ask your Club Counselor for details.

**You can contact Dearborn National at (888) 443-8829.**



and make adjustments well ahead of our transition into that chapter of our lives.

There's no one single thing that you can do to guarantee a comfortable retirement. But there are a number of lifestyle choices and decisions that you can make that will make a big difference in building a retirement nest egg. I've listed a few do's and don'ts for you to ponder.

**Do** remember that \$1 today will be worth more at retirement. Every dollar you save now will benefit from the multiplier effect of compound interest. Depending on how soon you need it, that dollar could be multiplied two, four or even eight times.

**Don't** let pride of ownership lure you into buying overly expensive autos or trading up too frequently. The salesperson always wants to put you into a new ride. Don't listen. Better to buy a vehicle with lower status and keep it until repairs exceed the value of the car.

**Don't** let your children's or grandchildren's college deplete your retirement savings. Yes, you rightfully believe in education and want your offspring to have the greatest range of life choices. But, by not helping

## Airports

# Maintenance Meeting

**PUPS on the agenda as LAX Maintenance Division holds quarterly meeting.**

On Sept. 17, LAX Maintenance Services Division (MSD) employees gathered to receive information from MSD Director Ralph Morones. This meeting is held every three months and is an opportunity for staff to get updates that affect them at Los Angeles World Airports.

At this particular meeting, employees were visited by volunteers and their dogs from the LAX PUPS (Pets Unstressing Passengers) program. Under the supervision of Heidi Huebner, the PUPS program allows volunteers and their dogs to walk the terminals at LAX to interact with passengers. This is a known stress reliever and is a successful program at several

airports around the country.

The message for the staff at the MSD meeting was to show how pets can relieve stress of anyone. "It was my intention to demonstrate how petting a dog for few minutes could relax even the most stressed amongst us. It was easy to see that the entire room grew more relaxed with the presence of the four dogs at the meeting," Morones said. "It's my goal to make these meeting interesting, and that certainly was accomplished with the volunteers and their dogs."

Thanks to Ralph Morones for contributing to this story.



## Another Seemore Sighting

Jim Booth, Retired, loves his cat, Seemore, and occasionally sends in photos. Thanks, Jim, and give our regards to Seemore.

"This picture is of Seemore in a chair with one of his toys – A.K.A. Donald Duck."



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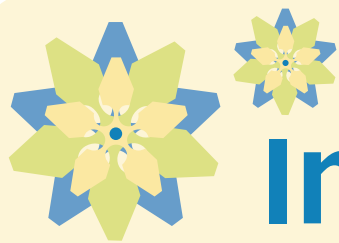
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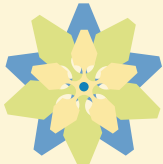
	COMPANY	(91105 Zip Code)
<b>California Automobile Insurance Premium Survey</b>	Farmers	\$1,482
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	Geico	\$1,311
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# Life's Important Moments



## 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](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com) or send paper notices and print photos to: Alive!, 120 West 2nd Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012



## New Members

### Airports

Steve Ceja  
Esau Cuilder  
Saul Felomino  
Paula Goytia  
Joshua Gustafson  
Keith Henderson  
Bobbie Knighton  
Evelyn Osteen  
Brenda Reyes  
Frank Rivera JR  
Jacqueline Rodriguez  
Magdi Salim  
Elena Sofiyanchuk

### Animal Services

Stacie Charles  
Amanda McCoy  
Arlene McNeel  
Cindy Solorzano

### Building and Safety

Sameh Bolous  
Jeffrey Christian  
Kylie Landeros  
Philip Legendre  
Michael Lung  
Chet Todd

### City Attorney

Elizabeth Barrera-Reny

### City Clerk

Pricela Ramirez

### City Council

Negar Ezhari

### Emergency Preparedness

Lacheryl Bell

### Finance

Alisa Shamam

### LAFD

Jacob Fryer  
Matthew Lievense  
Kacy Williams

### Fire and Police Pensions

Nicole Horn

### General Services

Gabriel Ahedo  
Kurt Aiken  
Ricky Barron  
Miguel Cortez  
Bunpot Dinmuong  
Hector Favala  
Richard Kaynsky  
Helen Loi  
John Macias  
Paul Merritt  
Jesus Oseguera  
Gilbert Padilla  
Luis Perez  
Bertha Rizo

### Harbor

Rita Brenner  
Antonio Carrillo  
David Castaneda  
Marco Ceron  
Salvador Chavez  
Daniel Cobos  
Kenny Luna  
Mario Magana  
Ismael Rebollar  
Claudia Rodriguez

### Library

Julissa Garcia

Olga Starow

### Mayor's Office

Henry Bouchot  
Tiffany Caldas

### Personnel

Sara Hicks  
Ashley Stracke  
Charles Ward  
Planning  
Dwayne Mercadel

### LAPD

Debbie Alonzo  
Sami Azmy  
Jose Barragan  
Brian Buchner  
Lonya Childs  
Henry Covarrubias  
Jose De Anda  
Tanisha Debaca  
Patrick Delaney  
Saul Diaz  
Martha Dominguez  
Robert Farias  
Mayra Ferman  
Ivana Gallegos  
Erica Garcia  
John Garner  
Edward Griffin  
Nand Hart Nibbrig  
Reginald Henderson  
Wallace Holcolm  
Guy Holloman  
Julie Iwuh  
Stephanie Johnigan  
Amber Kim  
Ralph Lagunas  
Josephine Lee  
Joanne Lee

Joseph Lloyd  
Edna Lopez  
Kalekey Love El  
Erica Mack-Arzu  
Chris Mazmanyman  
Michael Mejia  
Robert Merritt  
Angelean Monteiro  
David Murillo  
Ricardo Oliva  
Michael Oppelt  
Arlene Padilla  
Josue Pena  
David Phillips  
Jesus Pineda  
Andrew Rea  
Irma Romanelli  
Yvette Romero  
Maria Roumbos  
Francisco Ruiz  
Andrea Ruybal  
Eliazar Sanchez Beltran  
Chris Scott  
Denise Sinclair  
Christie Sotelo-Campos  
Erika Spence  
Cedric Stepter  
Benjamin Tran  
Juan Velasco  
Dalton Williams

### Public Works:

**Engineering**  
Charles Justice  
Brian Kelly  
Quyen Nguyen  
Steve Swailes  
Patrick Unrein

### Sanitation

Artin Abegian  
John Buckley  
Willie Cosey  
Keith Curl  
Andre Dana  
Aaron Deville  
Edgar Dominguez  
Lorin Dowdy  
LaQueisha Duvall

Jermel El-Amin  
Jamie Garcia  
Littleton Gardner II  
Genaro Hernandez  
Rohan Kelly  
John Medina  
Pete Miranda  
Jesus Morga  
Huy Nguyen  
Frank Ortega  
Andrew Pereyra  
Claudia Rios  
LaToya Ross  
Luis Santana  
Joshue Tinajero  
Luis Zuniga

### Street Lighting

Michael Bonner  
Lang Dam  
Abel Duran

### Street Services

Hernando Harvey  
Arturo Martinez  
Gilbert Vargas

### Rec & Parks

Kristian Aquino  
Andy Barrera  
Carlos Cardona  
Bryant Cortina  
Evelyn Fugere  
Chanel Gaines  
Ramon Hernandez  
Christopher Luna  
Juan Munoz  
Jimmie Pocklington  
Rosa Ramirez  
Luz Ramirez  
Ronald Smith  
Onier Vargas

### Transportation

Jacob Brothers  
Richard Gizse  
Isang Pettitt  
Ruben Rubi  
Juanita Sanchez  
Julie Vazquez

### LA ZOO

Gerardo Iriarte  
Carolyn McBain  
Nicole Piepers  
Magda Rodriguez  
Arlen Sturm

### DWP

David Aguinaga  
Ararat Arakelian  
Darren Coe  
Carlos Cruz  
Eneasaro Eleasaro  
Loryn Lam  
Dan Martinez  
Vanessa Mendez  
Peter Price  
Paul Ragland  
Jason Ridley  
Michael Sarabia

### Other

Pablo Andino  
Ralph Bocchetti  
Clarence Brathwaite  
Daniel Causey  
Dale Edmond  
Bree Frierson  
Matthew Garcia  
Santo Gonzalez  
Regina Hainsworth-Murphy  
Freteena Johnson  
Kevin Johnson  
Andrea Johnson-Crawford  
Troy Lagarde  
Jose Lopez  
Darrell Miller  
Joanne Mitchell  
Francisco Moreno  
Dana Mushegan  
Moses Olusanya  
Monica Padilla  
Mireya Perez  
Grace Ramos  
Jennifer Ramos  
Amanda Ruffin  
Lorraine Salinas  
Brian Smith  
Nathan Stanley  
Mary Tennant

## Births • Graduations Special Achievements • Weddings Alive! in the Military



Have a photo of a recent event?

Send photo and the  
appropriate info to

[talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

## Peace of Mind

CLASSIC  
FROM DEC. 2013

BY TIFFANY SY,  
The Club's Peace of Mind Expert  
[tsy@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:tsy@cityemployeesclub.com)



## Protect Your Identity

Holiday shopping is in full swing this month and theft is on high alert. This season, Americans become vulnerable as we frequently use our debit and credit cards for purchases. According to the Federal Trade Commission, identity theft cost Americans \$1.52 billion in 2011, with complaints increasing from 1.4 million to 1.8 million year over year.

Don't allow identity thieves to steal your joyful holiday spirit. You can shield yourself with Info Armor, a respectable company with a long-standing history of proving that they are identity protection

experts. Info Armor has been built upon a technological network of worldwide monitoring databases and highly skilled staff members trained to identify theft and restore a victim's identity.

When you enroll in coverage with Info Armor, benefits include protection for your spouse and children. Info Armor is more than just protection of your credit. They monitor your identity and provide updates to you weekly confirming your identity is secure. Info Armor's world-class customer care will also show you how you can become more aware on pro-

tecting your identity with valuable tools and resources. If you have already been a victim of identity theft, Info Armor will begin working on your behalf immediately to restore your identity and clean up past issues within the coverage period of the policy.

Coverage goes beyond credit card protection – this is your identity! Equip your family with the fight against identity theft and enroll today.

**A Club Member said:** "I love the wallet protection plan. I list everything that's important in my wallet – bank and

credit card account numbers, my driver's license, library cards, and insurance identification cards. If I ever lose my wallet, Privacy Armor contacts all the sources to report it lost and they also request a replacement for me."

Protect your identity today. Come in to the Club Store or call me, and we can get things started.







## Births






Have a photo of a recent birth? Send photo and the appropriate information to [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)



Karina Ji-Yang Cheung, born Sept. 14 to **Kwan and Officer Ka Man Fan, Airport Police**. “She’s also loved by her big sister, Kelsey.”

Noah Richard Noonan, born Oct. 3 to Ashley Trahan and Erik Noonan. Noah is the grandson of **Maria Gois, Detention Officer, State of California, and David Gois**.




## In Memoriam

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


<b>Active</b>			Ingersoll, Consuelo	Transportation	29
Cofeld, Marsha	LAPD	2	Iwul, Osgood	LAPD	19
Herrera, Paul	Rec and Parks	35	Jackson, Floyd	Harbor	21
Lord, Michael	Public Works	18	Keyser, Sheridan	Dept. on Disability	14
Rascon, Jose	Airports	28	Lackey, Donald	Public Works	6
Williams, Dovetta	Public Works	24	Lefferman, Kathleen	Mayor	8
			Leonard, Joseph	Public Works	30
<b>Retired</b>			Lloyd, Richard	Airports	17
Archambault, Ronald	Public Works	22	Lovato, Lillian	Personnel	22
Beatty, Sandra	LAPD	7	Marquez, Robert	Rec and Parks	30
Benson, Lillian	City Attorney	26	Murray, Enoch	Rec and Parks	39
Berry, Dorothy	City Attorney	32	Nelson, Reba	Personnel	35
Bibo, Valfried	General Services	31	Ogawa, Iwaho	Transportation	39
Boyle, Virgil	Building and Safety	21	Pierfax, Alfred	Public Works	27
Deloch, Postell	LAPD	25	Powell, John	Rec and Parks	30
Eis, Ria	Transportation	11	Ray, John	General Services	22
Ferrer, Tony	General Services	25	Reed, Betty	LAPD	7
Flores, Amado	Housing	22	Saenz, Mauricio	General Services	22
Fritz, John	Public Works	30	Salinas, Salvador	Planning	40
Fuller, Olla	Controller	35	Siegel, Terri	City Attorney	35
Gilmore, Kathleen	Building and Safety	19	Sims, Mary	Mayor	24
Greer, Wendell	Rec and Parks	32	Taylor, Jesse	General Services	33
Hopper, Harold	Public Works	35	Torres, Julian	Building and Safety	16
Howard, Robert	LAPD	27	Womack, Jeriel	Personnel	24

## Larios in the City

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Chief Operating Officer  
[rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com)



Robert Larios, Chief Operating Officer, honors City employees for their achievements.




**Congrats, George!**

The Club’s Robert Larios congratulates George Gonzalez for his career at Rec and Parks. He retired after 43 years of City service. Congratulations, George!

## HAM IT UP

this Christmas with great Club deals on Honey Baked Hams!

– Go to the Club Webstore for details:  
[cityemployeesclub.com](http://cityemployeesclub.com)




# PAYROLL OR PENSION DEDUCTED

## Funeral Pre-Planning Service

Pre-funding your funeral is easy to do. You’ve probably already thought about who should receive cherished possessions and how you want your funeral arranged. With the help of a funeral service professional, putting your final wishes down on paper is as easy as having a conversation with a close friend.

- ✓ Available to Club Members, Spouses, or Domestic Partners.
- ✓ Your coverage is portable. If you leave the City or DWP, you can take your coverage with you.
- ✓ Paid off in 7 years.



### Leave your kids the house, the jewelry, the photos ..but not this.



### Select From Participating Funeral Homes

Angeleno Mortuary N. Hollywood, CA	Crawford Mortuary Northridge, CA	Angeleno Mortuary Van Nuys, CA	Woods-Valentine Mortuary Pasadena, CA	Cabot & Sons Pasadena, CA	Inglewood Mortuary Inglewood, CA
Mc Kenzie Mortuary Services Long Beach, CA	Riverside-Akes Family Funeral Home Riverside, CA			Ingold Chapel Fontana, CA	Akes Family Funeral Homes Corona & Riverside, CA

**Getting started is easy. I can help you right away!**



Tiffany Sy  
Club Member Services Counselor  
(800) 464-0452  
[tsy@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:tsy@cityemployeesclub.com)



Los Angeles Public Library

Library's  
TOP  
10

Here's what LA was  
reading, watching and  
listening to in October.

Lists are courtesy Los Angeles  
Public Library, Central library  
downtown and 72 branches  
combined.

Books loaned:

1. *Make Me: A Jack Reacher Novel*, Lee Child
2. *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up*, Marie Kondo
3. *X*, Sue Grafton
4. *The Maze Runner*, James Dashner
5. *The Fault in Our Stars*, John Green
6. *Modern Romance*, Asiz Ansari
7. *Mockingjay*, Suzanne Collins
8. *The Murder House*, James Patterson
9. *The Hunger Games*, Suzanne Collins
10. *Catching Fire*, Suzanne Collins

DVDs loaned

1. *Cinderella* [videorecording]
2. *Home*
3. *Ex Machina*
4. *Kingsman: The Secret Service*
5. *Big Hero 6*
6. *Interstellar* [videorecording]
7. *Fifty Shades of Grey*
8. *Marvel's The Avengers: Age of Ultron*
9. *Jupiter Ascending*
10. *Chappie*

Books downloaded

(e-books)

1. *The Door in the Hedge*, Robin McKinley
2. *The Girl on the Train*, Paula Hawkins
3. *In the Shadow of Blackbirds*, Cat Winters
4. *The Martian*, Andy Weir
5. *All the Light We Cannot See*, Anthony Doerr
6. *Go Set a Watchman*, Harper Lee
7. *Make Me*, Lee Child
8. *The Girl in the Spider's Web*, David Lagercrantz
9. *The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up*, Marie Kondo
10. *The Goldfinch*, Donna Tartt

Download-and-Keep songs\*

1. *Hello*, Adele
2. *Locked Away*, R. City featuring Adam Levine
3. *Perfect*, One Direction
4. *Ex's & Oh's*, Elle King
5. *Hands of Love*, Miley Cyrus
6. *Like I'm Gonna Lose You*, Meghan Trainor featuring John Legend
7. *Kiss Me*, Olly Murs
8. *(I Like It When You) Smile*, Harry Connick Jr
9. *Stand by You*, Rachel Platten
10. *Paint It Black*, Ciara

\* "Freegal" music via the Library lets users  
download and keep up to five songs a month –  
it's seriously free and legal! Check it out at  
<http://lapl.freegalmusic.com>

The Club



Robert Larios,  
Club COO

Larios Is New COO

Robert Larios is named the  
Club's Chief Operating Officer.

The Chief Operating Officer position ensures that the Club runs in the most efficient way possible, thereby maximizing value for members and customer satisfaction. Robert will make strategic company decisions by reviewing and assessing its quality and efficiency. By meeting with other executives and getting a clear picture of the overall needs of the company, he can set goals and policies for the company to make the necessary changes.

The position requires a thorough knowledge of every part of the Club's operations – retail, accounting, IT, claims, marketing, membership and insurance – to ensure that the Club machine operates at maximum efficiency and is able to meet objectives. Above all, the COO must be comfortable dealing with operational matters at one moment, and with executive level strategic issues at the next.

Robert joined the association as Club Counselor in 1998. He was promoted to Marketing Coordinator, then Sales and Operations Manager, Director of Marketing

and Communications, Director of Operations and finally Vice President of Operations, until his current position of Chief Operating Officer.

Of course Robert Larios is also known by other personas in *Alive!* – Chef Larios, who provides excellent recipes every month; the Sports Dude, who organizes the Club's very popular Club Softball League, among other sports; and, most importantly, the Discount King, developing and managing the hundreds of benefits the Club offers its Members.

Robert received his executive Master's degree in business administration from the University of Michigan, Ross School of Business in 2014; his Bachelor's degree in Spanish literature and linguistics from the University of Southern California in 1997, and certificate in nonprofit management from the United States Chamber of Commerce in 2004.

With this promotion, Robert becomes the first Latino on the Club's executive level in its 87-year history, and possibly the first for any Latino at that level of any City association.

Robert and his wife, Patricia, live in the Irvine area with their two cats, Tiramisu and Cannoli.



A TRIBUTE  
FALLEN FIRST RESPONDERS

LOS ANGELES' 1<sup>ST</sup>  
RUN TO REMEMBER  
HALF MARATHON AND 10K RUN  
BEGINNING AT THE GROVE AND THROUGH HOLLYWOOD  
JANUARY 24, 2016

TO REGISTER, PLEASE VISIT:  
[WWW.RUNTOREMEMBERLA.ORG](http://WWW.RUNTOREMEMBERLA.ORG)



Reviews by Fellow Club Members

ENTERTAINMENT

What are some great books, events and sounds to enjoy to get into the holiday spirit? *Alive!* asked our reviewers – City Employees or retirees who send in their entertainment reviews most every month – for their recommendations.

Here are some suggestions.  
Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all, and to all a good night!

Alive! Reviewers  
Get in the Spirit

Television

CMA Country Christmas

ABC  
Dec. 3



Hard-livin' country music has never been my thing, but the producers of this annual show – taking advantage of the Christmas season to put some new Nashville talent under the spotlight – keep it very middle of the road. Think of a full, lush orchestra, and even some jazz-leaning vocals by Pentatonix. Also featuring Jennifer Nettles, Darius Rucker, Jewel, Martina McBride, Kelsea Ballerini, Mickey Guyton, Charles Kelley, Brian Setzer, Leann Rimes, Dan + Shay, Michael W. Smith, and others.

—John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

Music

Brian Setzer Orchestra



Microsoft Theatre  
Dec. 18

Singer-songwriter-bandleader Brian Setzer will be appearing at the Microsoft Theater (formerly the Nokia Theater LA Live) Dec. 18. Brian will be performing some rockin' holiday sounds with his 12-piece orchestra. His annual performance of "Christmas Rocks!" is like a winter snow – it shows no signs of stopping! The tour will contain selections from "Rockin' Rudolph," Setzer's three previous Christmas albums and original compositions. If you want to get into the Christmas spirit with some high-rocking music, this is the place to be!

Thanks to PSR II Sandy Unger for this recommendation!

— Jean Sarfaty,  
LAPD Communications, Club Rep

Books

The Christmas Wedding Ring

Susan Mallery  
Romance Fiction, 272 pages  
Harlequin

Dylan Black had wanted to propose to Janet Anderson, Molly's older sister, but Janet dumped Dylan before Christmas and married Thomas. Dylan gives the ring to Molly as a promise that she should look him up when she is older and they can travel on an adventure, but not romantically. Molly had a teenaged crush on Dylan and watches as he rides away on his motorcycle.

Fourteen years later, Molly's ex-fiancé skips off with his secretary to Mexico and leaves Molly alone. Molly stumbles upon the ring that Dylan gave to her years ago and decides to take Dylan up on his offer he made years ago. I recommend this fun holiday romance.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel

Dashing Through The Snow

Debbie Macomber  
Romance Fiction, 144 pages  
Random House

Two people share a rental car to Seattle because the airlines are overbooked, and both Ashley Davison, a graduate student in California, and Dashiell Sutherland, a former Army intelligence officer must arrive before Christmas. Ashley is traveling to Seattle to spend the holidays with her family, and Dashiell has a job interview in Seattle. The two clash at first, but romance flies between the two as they travel on an adventurous ride rescuing a lost puppy, run into petty thieves, and encounter an overzealous FBI agent and a mechanic with a space alien wife.

This wacky novel is filled with humor and romance.

— Linda Rorex, Personnel

Events

Christmas Boat Parade

Marina del Rey  
Dec. 12

Why persist with fake snow for Christmas when we can all partake in some authentic Southern California rituals like the boat parades that take place all along the coast: Marina del Rey, Long Beach, Newport Beach. Last year's Marina del Rey boat parade was a blast, with vessels ranging from significant yachts to dinghies decorated with lights and sound systems to entertain the crowds gathered along the bike path and bay area. It's a family night out, kicked off with fireworks, with wrapped up kids, flashlights, glow sticks and snacks for approximately an hour and a half of parading/gliding boats. Watch out for Santa, the Coast Guard and some fun cultural mash-ups along the way. If you're in the neighborhood, this is a distinctive and fun evening.

— Dearbhla McNulty, Club wife

Video Games

— Video games via online, rental or purchase

Disney Infinity 3.0r

Rated E10+ for Everyone 10+  
For PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Wii U, Xbox 360, Xbox One  
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

It may just be Disney's version of *Skylanders*, but the *Disney Infinity* series does put its own spin on the game. Now, with the release of Version 3.0, new elements have been added to the game. The first game featured some of Disney and Pixar's best characters. 2.0 introduced the Marvel cast of characters and more Disney classics to the series. 3.0 adds more Disney and Marvel elements to the mix but introduces another big franchise to the mix – *Star Wars*. With these new elements added to the Toy Box of Disney Infinity, this really does make it one of the biggest and best free/open world games out there.

— Richard Cardenas, LAPD

At the Movies

— In the cinema

Burnt

Rated R  
My Score: 3 (out of 5)

Bradley Cooper plays Adam Jones, a chef who destroyed his career with drugs and arrogance. He has been rehabbed and returns to London to try and regain his reputation by working in a friend's restaurant and attempting to win the highly coveted Michelin three-star award.

Although entertaining, *Burnt* is filled with every *Top Chef* cliché in the book. There are no surprises, and the twists are predictable. Most of the seats in my theater were empty. Too bad. The film has its good moments, and is at least worth renting.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

Trumbo

Rated R  
My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Bryan Cranston plays Dalton Trumbo, who in 1947 was the highest-paid screenwriter in Hollywood. But he and several of his Hollywood friends were communists, and a "Red-scare" swept the country with the fear of a takeover by the Soviet Union. As a result, he and his pals were blacklisted by the studios and could not find work.

What an interesting film this is of a bygone era of Hollywood, gripped by the fear of appearing weak on communism. The hypocrisy of liberal Hollywood caving into the national paranoia is especially poignant in this fascinating and very witty movie.

— Lou Loomis, Rec and Parks

The Intern

Rated PG-13  
My Score: 3 (out of 5)



*The Intern* benefits from a wonderfully mish-mashed cast that you wouldn't think would blend well together in this kind of film but actually comes off as really believable. The connection between Anne Hathaway and Robert De Niro is simply magnificent and endearing, making both characters real and relatable, and that is a real heartwarming sell for the film. Unfortunately the rest of the film can't really quite keep up with the magic that these two convey, and the story, pacing and overall feel of the film just get lost and miscued throughout. Still, I wouldn't mind watching this one again with the wife.

— Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Submit a Review!

*Alive!* publishes entertainment reviews of 100 words or fewer on a space-available basis.

- Categories: Movies (in theatres or at home/streaming/DVDs); theatre; books; concerts; videogames.
- Reviews must be written by you (not taken from another source) and exclusive to *Alive!*
- Keep reviews to 100 words or fewer, but 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.
- Tell us your name and City department (or retired).
- Submit to: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
- *Alive!* will send you a small but appropriate "thank you" if we publish your review.

Steve Jobs

Rated R  
My Score: 3 (out of 5)



Since screenwriter Aaron Sorkin's contributions to this highly imagined biography of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs is so prominent in the film's marketing, it's best to start there. There are many aspects to a well-written script: sharp dialog (check); well-constructed and -located scenes (check); intelligence (check); solid structure (check); and depth and wit (check, check). *Steve Jobs* has them all, but it's missing something rather important – why anyone should care. Written by an acolyte, *Steve Jobs* presumes the interest in its subject is self-evident, but it isn't. The main reason people love Apple, if they do at all, is because it makes their lives simpler, more creative, more powerful – in other words, better. Jobs himself believed that, but it's missing here. *Steve Jobs* is a very sharply honed arrow that overshoots its target.

— John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

Spectre

Rated PG-13  
My Score: 4 (out of 5)



*Spectre* is not, and cannot be, *Skyfall*, the previous Bond film that's not only arguably the best of the series but transcended it to become something more. *Spectre* returns the series to its standard content, but it does it well enough despite some flaws. Occasionally it feels derivative (an opening that mirrors *GoldenEye*; a strong female [Léa Seydoux] who questions Bond's soul as in *Casino Royale* and, again, *GoldenEye*). In some ways *Spectre* seems like a greatest-hits collection. But it's original enough to work; it touches on religion in an unspoken way, and it's a small bit of genius to make the villain's lair a lot closer to, well, home. The movie is too long, its ending is not quite fundamental, and I could have done without the torture scene. Maybe that excruciating scene mirrors how Daniel Craig now feels about playing the British spy. For that, and because its story is complete and final, *Spectre* feels like the end of Craig's assignment. If so, he energized the role with levels of intensity, depth and agitated brooding to match our times. Bond stands on strong footing, and we'll see where – and how – he runs next.

— John Burnes, *Alive!* editor



Airports

# BBQ All Around

## Maintenance Services Division at 3 LA Airports holds barbecues for employees.

Airports’ Maintenance Services Division at three L.A. airports – LAX, Ontario and Van Nuys – held barbecues for its employees. Here’s a rundown:

**LAX** - On Aug. 26, employees in Maintenance Services Division (MSD) at LAX gathered for the annual barbecue hosted by MSD Director Ralph Morones. “This is one way that I can thank all the maintenance employees and our colleagues from other Divisions at LAX for all they do to help make MSD successful throughout the year,” he said.

Employees from various shops and crews assembled early that morning to prepare food, set up tables and chairs, and get ready to serve more than 600 employees from the dayshift. This is the annual event in the Maintenance Yard at LAX where co-workers, retirees and colleagues from other Divisions of LAX congregate to relax, converse and enjoy a nice meal of tacos, rice, beans, punch and dessert. This was the eighth consecutive year that the MSD family and friends have gathered in the maintenance yard.

**Ontario** - On Sept. 10, current maintenance employees at Ontario International Airport (ONT), along with co-workers and Retirees, were treated to an appreciation barbecue by LAX Director of Maintenance Services Division Ralph Morones and ONT Airport Maintenance Superintendent Larry Hartnett. This is an annual event that celebrates the continued success of the maintenance section at ONT and gives the employees and retirees an opportunity to gather as family for a relaxing meal.

“Despite the recent development to transfer the airport to another authority, we felt it was important to continue the tradition of showing thanks and appreciation for a dedicated staff in maintenance at ONT,” Morones said.

“These employees have been working under a cloud of uncertainty regarding the future of this airport, and that has not affected their ability to get work completed and to work together for the good of the City of Los Angeles,” Hartnett said.

**Van Nuys** - Van Nuys Airport (VNY) maintenance employees assembled on Sept. 24 for an appreciation luncheon courtesy of LAX Director of Maintenance Services Division Ralph Morones. Though small in numbers, the maintenance staff at VNY plays a large role in keeping this busy general aviation airport well maintained, clean and safe.

“It’s important to thank and recognize the employees at VNY who wear many hats and work well together to keep the airfield safe and looking good,” Morones said. “Though this airport is not as busy or as large as LAX, the supervisor and employees working there are just as vital to the efficiency of operation of this facility.”

*Alive!* thanks Ralph Morones for contributing to this report.





# CLASSIFIED ADS

## Members Marketplace

### New Ads This Month!

**For Sale:** 2-way radios. Motorola Talkabout T7400. AA or NiMH batteries. Long-range transmissions, weather channels. Ideal for camping/boating safety. And fun! \$55. Mike, (562) 596-1346

12/15

**For Sale:** 2013 Chevy Cruze LS. 4 door, 41k miles. Silver, black cloth int. Very clean, dealer maintained. Photos at <http://tinyurl.com/nzazven> \$13,000 OBO. James, (818) 522-2568.

12/15



**For Sale:** Cadillac Brougham, 1989. Leather interior. Very good shape. 77,000 miles. \$4,000 OBO. (626) 797-8328.

12/15



**For Sale:** exercise equipment. Bowflex Treadclimber TC3000 cardio machine. Exclnt. cond. \$350 OBO. Christopher, (626) 695-0979.

12/15

#### Transport

**For Sale:** 2013 Chevy Cruze LS. 4 door, 41k miles. Silver, black cloth int. Very clean, dealer maintained. Photos at <http://tinyurl.com/nzazven> \$13,000 OBO. James, (818) 522-2568.

11/15



**For Sale:** RV trailer, 2008 Thor Sonoma, 26 ft. New tires, roof, awning. Honda generator. Exclnt. cond. \$9,500. (562) 773-

5408.

11/15

**For Sale:** 1984 F-150 – w/camper shell and carpet kit. As is. \$1100 OBO. Call 310-764-4478

9/15



**For Sale:** 1963 Chevy Corvair, convertible. Good cond., runs great. Light green ext./int., white top. \$9,000 OBO. Alex, (323) 691-

0872.

8/15



**For Sale:** Watercraft, his and hers, '93 Bombardie Seadoo, '91 Waverunner w/trailer. Great condition. Jackie, (626) 383-1708.

7/15



**For Sale:** 2003 Harley "ROAD KING" Davidson (100th anniversary edition)motorcycle, 5087 miles, stage 1 with detachable windshield, passenger back support, hardbags, battery charger, black and chrome, hardly ridden, always garaged, 1 owner only. \$10,000.00 OBO. Please call 818-366-3273 John or text 818-633-4164.

7/15



**For Sale:** Motorcycle, 2007 Kawasaki, like new/15 hours ridden, runs great, must see. \$3,000. Robert, (661) 964-7837 bet. 2-7 p.m.

7/15



**For Sale:** RV trailer/toy-hauler, 2006 Forest River Sierra Sport, 29 foot. Very good cond., new tires, new roof, 4,000 onan generator, low hours. \$15,000 OBO. Call/text John Long, (909) 837-8347.

7/15

**2005 Honda Civic Si:** Hatchback, manual, 2-door, sun roof, power windows, security system, XLNT running condition, tan color, 68K miles. \$10,500 OBO. Info @ (310) 642-0522.

10/14

**1993 Infinity Q:** Automatic, 4-door, power windows, XLNT running condition, green color, 125K miles. \$3,000 OBO. Info @ (310) 642-0522.

10/14



**1959 Buick Invicta:** Fully restored, 4 door asking \$25,000. Located in Tehachapi. For more pictures & info: [drewlu24@aol.com](mailto:drewlu24@aol.com)

9/14

**Pop-Up Trailer Tent:** 2005 Rockwood Freedom, in good condition, very clean interior. Everything works well & ready for camping. Sleeps 6-8. 1 propane tank, stove, sink, spare tire, stabilizer jacks, water heater, awning & refrigerator. \$4,200. Yervand @ (818) 355-7704.

8/14

**5th Wheel Trailer:** 2010 Cougar High Country, excellent condition. Sleeps 4. Slide outs, awnings & full bath. All accessories & new 5th wheel hitch can be towed by ½ ton truck, it's ready to go. \$32,000 or TOP. Ken Hawkes @ (310) 505-5733.

8/14



**1967 Caprice Classic:** Runs great! Has a rebuilt motor & transmission, new tires, power brakes, new shocks, new brakes, hubcaps & a 327 motor. Air conditioning unit is valued \$1,000. Registered & tags are up to date. It's a running project. Asking \$5,000, must sell. Info @ (310) 753-9522.

8/14

**2013 Dodge Challenger:** Like new, fully loaded, excellent condition, very low mileage asking \$30K OBO. "PATY" @ (626) 242-4365.

8/14

**1993 Chevy Corvette:** \$11,000. Great condition inside & out, excellent running condition, 74K miles. Automatic 40th yr anniversary model, maroon color. Sylvester (310) 748-2953 or Tanya (310) 713-0244.

7/14

**Factory Mag Rims:** (4) 2006 F150 w/near new Cooper/Hercules P265/165/17 tires. \$500 firm. Vinyl rear seat sold separately. \$400. Scott @ (562) 427-6700.

8/14

**2005 Southwind RV:** 32ft. Like new w/ 2 slide outs, 2 panasonic tvs, 2 cds, full surround sound system, dvd, satellite, cable, new tires, only 15,000 miles. \$49,000. Rosemary Finch @ (951) 218-4414.

6/14

#### Cemetery Plots

**4 Cemetery Plots:** Cemetery plots, 4, side by side. Rose Hills/Whittier. Value \$18,000, selling \$13,000, nego. Cortez, (323) 382-2405.

2/15

**Cemetery Plot:** Inglewood Cemetery, Sunset Mission Mausoleum, Sanctuary of Grace, 243 Double Capacity Crypt Tier-3, \$8,000. Dennis @ (661) 433-1912.

1/15

**2 Cemetery Plots:** Eternal Valley Newhall, Premium Garden of Peace. Currently plots here start at \$6,900 each. Sell both \$7,500 total. Jim @ (661) 713-6353.

11/14

**Cemetery Plot:** 1 plot for 2 people. Oakdale Memorial Park, Glendora, CA, \$3,000. Jose or Juanita Rojas @ (818) 799-3516 or at (818) 799-0569.

11/14

**Cemetery Plot:** 1 plot for 2 people. At Oakdale Memorial Park, Glendora, CA. \$3,000. Jose or Juanita Rojas @ (818) 799-3516 or (818) 799-0569.

10/14

**2 Cemetery Plots:** Rose Hills, Whittier. Located in cherry blossom lawn, \$4,850 each + transfer fees. Area is on flat ground & near the lake. Charles @ (310) 386-5041.

9/14

#### Furniture

**For Sale:** Crib, cream colored, designer style. Good cond. \$350 OBO. (818) 281-1488.

10/15

**For Sale:** Bedroom set, 6 piece, cherry wood. Good cond. \$650 OBO. (818) 281-1488.

10/15

**For sale:** Sofa and chair, great condition, leather/upholstered, "reversible" pillows/cushions. Carved wood, unique design, nail heads. \$600 OBO. Charlene, (661) 916-2970.

5/15



**Dining table:** w/leaf, 6 chairs, \$300 obo. Jackie, (626) 383-1708.

4/15

**Mattress:** Beautyrest Black (Alexia) queen size, extra firm, new mattress, \$600 obo. Responsible for own pickup. Dwain, (323)754-8382 or [dnrhenry@yahoo.com](mailto:dnrhenry@yahoo.com)

4/15

**Ping Pong Table:** 5 x 9, fold-up & roll-away, \$75. Joe @ (310) 323-4940.

2/15



**Baby Crib:** Never used, brand new & in great condition. Delta brand, amber model #6925-204,

\$130. John @ (562)755-9462.

2/15



**Cocktail/Coffee Table:** New, modern glass-top. \$300 (El Segundo). Espresso colored base w/large glass

top elevated by grey posts. 43"x 43". Breakdown is easy. Must be able to lift & transport on your own. Javier Gomez @ (310) 529-0543.

12/14



**Table Set:** With leaf & 4 chairs. \$300 OBO, great condition! Valerie @ (951) 315-3920.

11/14



**Hutch & Cabinet:** Touch light, matching set \$500 OBO, great condition! Valerie @ (951) 315-3920.

11/14



**Dinette Set:** 9 piece, dark brown oakwood w/ matching leather chairs & leaf for extension. \$2,500. Parker @

(562) 612-6567.

8/14

#### Homes/Rentals/Land

**For Sale:** House, 2 bed/1 bath, remodeled, Bakersfield. Investment property, rented month/month (\$750/month). Large cleared lot, secure. Listed at \$94,000. Sold as-is, seller selects services (title, escrow). [tisdaseason2468@outlook.com](mailto:tisdaseason2468@outlook.com)

11/15

**For Vacation Rent:** Condo, 2 bd./2 bath, beachfront, Puerto Nayarit, Mexico. Private pool on balcony. April 1-8, 2016. \$1,000. Jessie, (323) 893-6570.

11/15

**For Rent:** bedroom, large, fully furnished w/ queen bed. North Whittier country club area near 605/60 fwys. Includes utilities; kitchen/laundry use. LAFD Firefighter home. Male/non-smokers only. John, (626) 757-5341; [jgonzlez@hotmail.com](mailto:jgonzlez@hotmail.com)

11/15

**For rent:** Duplex, Glassel Park, 2 bd/1 bath, parking for 2 vehicles. \$1,400/month. Alfredo, (323) 240-2772.

10/15

**For Sale:** Timeshare. Pacific Monarch/Diamond Resorts. One full week, two bedrooms. Don't buy direct. \$2,000/obo. Elizabeth, (909) 772-4087.

9/15

**For Sale:** Home/studio apts., three sep. units sold as one package. Bakersfield. Front home: 2 bd., needs work (in progress), flippable. 2nd bedroom rentable. 2 studio apts. in back, rentable. \$110,000 total. Sold as-is; seller selects title/escrow co. Email: [tisdaseason2468@outlook.com](mailto:tisdaseason2468@outlook.com)

8/15

**For Sale:** Townhouse. Las Vegas/Chinatown, near Strip, behind school, near major streets. Has rental tenant. \$85,000, HOA \$100/month. Sold as-is; seller selects title/escrow co. Do not disturb tenant. Email: [tisdaseason2468@outlook.com](mailto:tisdaseason2468@outlook.com)

8/15

**For Rent:** Apt., 1 bed, 1 bath. Near First/Alvarado. 1 of 3 units. 1 car garage. Near Mid-Wilshire, Koreatown, Good Samaritan Hospital, Staples Center, Echo Park, Silverlake. App. process/credit check req. No pets. 1 yr. lease minimum. \$1250 a month. (323) 919-1163.

8/15

**For Sale:** Timeshare, Puerto Vallarta 1+1, 1/2, sleeps 4, beachfront Playa del Sol Costa Sur Resort. Asking \$1,800, extended thru 2030. Jennifer, (818) 517-3675.

8/15

**For Rent:** Lovely apartment in Los Angeles (5-units). 1 bed / 1 bath, kitchen, living room, dining room, 1-car garage. Upstairs unit. New paint, carpet, windows and fixtures. Very quiet on Don Tomaso Dr. Close to public transportation. Call for more details (310) 365-1868.

8/15

**For Sale:** Cabin, A frame, San Bernardino mtns., secluded, views. 765 sq. ft.; 1BD/1BA; new cabinets; needs work; 30903 Live Oak Dr., Running Springs. Photos on Realtor.com. \$127,000; Dan Teter: (866) 214-8587.

7/15



**For rent:** Vacation rental, Big Bear Lake. 3 bd/2 bath house in village. Fully furnished, near the lake. John Long, Call

(909) 837-8347.

5/15

**For rent:** Studio apt. in safe, quiet La Crescenta, Wifi-ready, semi-furnished, double-pane windows, glass-sliding doors opening to vegetable garden, fruit trees, succulents, seating areas, mountain views. Close to Montrose and Trader Joe's, 2 blocks to public transportation. \$1,400 includes utilities. Lita, (818) 795-4074.

4/15

**Vacation rental:** Condo in beautiful oceanfront resort, Cabo San Lucas. 7-day rental for \$795. 1 bd, 1 bath; completely furnished, full kitchen w/ views of El Arco on Medano Beach. Close to downtown, shopping, restaurants, entertainment. View at [clubcascadasdebaja.com](http://clubcascadasdebaja.com). (562) 301-2940.

4/15

**For rent:** Lovely apartment in Leimert Park (in 4-unit complex). 1 bd/1 bath, kitchen, granite countertops, living rm, dining rm, 1-car garage. New paint, carpet/hardwood and tiled floors, windows and fixtures, Washer/dryer hookup. Close to public transportation. 15 minutes from downtown, USC, beach. (310) 261-2085.

4/15

**For Rent:** Lovely downstairs apartment, 82nd/Crenshaw, very quiet, close to public transportation. 1BD/1BA w/kitchen, living room, dining room, 1-car garage in Inglewood (4-units). Newly painted, new carpet, fixtures, double glazed windows & new granite kitchen countertop. \$1,200. Info @ (323) 292-9989.

3/15

**For Rent:** 1BD/1BA apartment in North Inglewood. Mr. Brown @ (323) 296-1547.

3/15



**For Rent:** Newly remodeled 2BD/1BA, LA/ Baldwin Hills area. Carpet & hardwood floors, laundry on-site, quiet neighborhood, non-smoking unit, 1-car garage. Paid utilities: water & gardener. No pets. \$1,600mo + \$1,600 deposit. Info @ (310) 365-1868 or [tfrierson2001@yahoo.com](mailto:tfrierson2001@yahoo.com)

12/14

**For Sale:** Condo 1BD/1BA. All new paint, carpets, dishwasher, etc. Boulder City, NV. Info @ (702) 293-9554.

11/14

#### Household Items

**For Sale:** Electric toothbrush, Oral-B. Professional Care model 7850 DLX. New. \$35. (213) 792-3130.

11/15



**For Sale:** DVD/CD player/storage, Sony ES DVP, jukebox style, stores up to 150 disks. Categorize/play on demand.

Incl. remote, keyboard for input. Door does not close but can be done manually, or may be repaired. John, (626) 757-5341; [jgonzlez@hotmail.com](mailto:jgonzlez@hotmail.com)

11/15

**For Sale:** Heater, Lasko ceramic tower. 1,500 watts, w/remote. New. \$39. (213) 792-3130.

11/15

**For Sale:** Immersion blender, Wolfgang Puck. Black. \$35. (213) 792-3130.

11/15



**For Sale:** Oven, Kenmore 30-in. wall unit, electric, self-clean, white. Brand new in package. 30 inch/wide x 29 inch/high x 24.5 inch deep. \$600. (562) 301-2940.

10/15



**For Sale:** TV/entertainment center. Phillips Magnavox 60-inch TV, \$200/obo. All maple entertainment center, 3 piece, glass doors, tall sliding compartment doors, \$800/obo. Martha, (213) 367-4094.

9/15

**For Sale:** Panini maker. Wolfgang Puck brand. Black/chrome, like new. \$40. (213) 792-3130.

9/15

**For Sale:** Pots/pans. Wolfgang Puck brand. Stainless steel. 13 pieces, like new. \$50. (213) 792-3130.

9/15

**For Sale:** VCR, Mitsubishi HS-U520, 4 head Hi-Fi. Remote. Exclnt. cond. \$25. (213) 792-3130.

9/15

**For Sale:** Printer, color, Lexmark X2470. New in box. \$20. (213) 792-3130.

9/15

**For Sale:** Exercise machine. Rock 'n' Roll Stepper Body Express by Tony Little Designs. New in box. \$65. (213) 792-3130.

9/15

**For Sale:** Refrigerator, side/side, 6 feet tall, white. \$150. Robert, (626) 633-1940.

8/15

**For Sale:** Lawn mower, 21 inch rotary, good condition. Plus other gardening items. \$58. Don, (818) 780-7788 (leave message).

8/15



**For Sale:** Motorized wheelchair, Go Chair, exclnt. cond., new battery. \$800/ OBO. Peggy LeGras, (323) 314-9100.

7/15

**For Sale:** e-printer, HP Photosmart 7520, brand new in box. \$75 or best offer. James A. Goree, (323) 778-6086.

6/15

**Updraft Range Hood:** Kenmore Elite 42" w/3-setting halogen lighting in white. Sears price: \$379.99. UNOPENED & still in original packaging. \$350 OBO. Peter @ (818) 353-7074 or (818) 254-7391.

2/15

**Double Wall Oven:** Kenmore 24" manual clean in white. Sears price: \$1299.99. UNOPENED & still in original packaging. \$1,150 OBO. Peter @ (818) 353-7074 or (818) 254-7391.

2/15

**Built-In Dishwasher:** Kenmore 24" Energy-star in white. Sears price: \$279.99. UNOPENED & still in original packaging. \$250 OBO. Peter @ (818) 353-7074 or (818) 254-7391.

2/15



**Drying Center:** Like new, white Maytag 2-in-1 Neptune w/lower tumble drum (7 cu. ft. capacity) & hanging/flat laying upper dry cabinet (17.3 cu. ft. capacity). Upper unit refreshes clothing w/o wash or dry & reduce wrinkles. Has a "sensor dry" setting. Best dryer I ever had! 73-3/4h x 32w x 26d. \$320. Phil @ (800) 678-4145, Extension #709.

1/15

#### Miscellaneous

**For Sale:** Suze Orman's Protection Portfolio, new w/case. \$85. (213) 792-3130.

11/15



**For Sale:** neon sign for game room. New, never used. Valued at \$





# DISCOUNT MOVIE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE CITY EMPLOYEES CLUB

## DECEMBER MOVIE RELEASES

- **KRAMPUS:** Opens December 4
- **YOUTH:** Opens December 4
- **CHI-RAQ:** Opens December 4
- **IN THE HEART OF THE SEA (IMAX/3D):** Opens December 11
- **STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS (IMAX/3D):** Opens December 18
- **ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS: THE ROAD CHIP:** Opens December 18
- **SISTERS:** Opens December 18
- **SON OF SAUL:** Opens December 18
- **JOY:** Opens December 25
- **THE BIG SHORT:** Opens December 23
- **DADDY’S HOME:** Opens December 25
- **CONCUSSION:** Opens December 25
- **POINT BREAK (3D):** Opens December 25





Located in Carlsbad, 30 minutes north of San Diego and one hour south of Anaheim.  
Visit [LEGOLAND.com](http://LEGOLAND.com) for Resort information.

# HOLIDAY SNOW DAYS + WINTER NIGHTS

November 21 - January 3

## Discounted Tickets + 2nd Day FREE

Holiday Snow Days and Winter Nights  
have returned to LEGOLAND® California Resort!  
With snow! Snowballs! Snowmen! Lights,  
music, food and more!

Discount tickets can be purchased at  
the LA City Employees Club (888) 777-1744.



[LEGOLAND.com](http://LEGOLAND.com)

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FOR CLUB MEMBERS ONLY

DISCOUNT TICKETS

CHEAPEST TICKETS IN THE STATE **UP TO 60% OFF**

CHEAP TICKETS - INSANE SERVICE - AFFORDABLE INSURANCE

MOVIE THEATERS

	RETAIL	CLUB
<b>AMC THEATERS</b>		
Good Any Time	\$14.00	<b>\$8.00</b>
Small Popcorn	\$5.50	<b>\$3.00</b>
Small Drink	\$4.50	<b>\$3.00</b>
Movie Bundle	\$42.00	<b>\$25.00</b>
<small>* Includes 2 unrestricted movie passes, 2 small drinks, 1 small popcorn</small>		
<b>CINEMARK THEATERS</b>	\$11.75	<b>\$8.00</b>
<b>GALAXY THEATERS</b> - Good Any Time	\$11.00	<b>\$8.00</b>
<b>HARKINS MOVIE THEATERS</b>		
Restricted	\$10.00	<b>\$6.50</b>
Good Any Time	\$10.00	<b>\$7.50</b>
Small Popcorn	\$5.25	<b>\$4.25</b>
Small Drink	\$4.50	<b>\$3.50</b>
<b>KRIKORIAN THEATERS</b> - Good Any Time	\$12.00	<b>\$7.50</b>
<b>LAEMMLE THEATERS</b> - Good Any Time	\$11.00	<b>\$6.00</b>
<b>LANDMARK THEATERS</b>	\$13.00	<b>\$8.00</b>
<b>PACIFIC THEATERS</b> - Restricted		
<small>* \$2 surcharge for use at Americana in Glendale and at The Grove in L.A. - (Not valid at Archlight Theaters)</small>		
\$13.75		<b>\$8.00</b>
<b>REGAL/ EDWARDS/ UNITED ARTIST</b>		
Good Any Time	\$14.75	<b>\$8.50</b>
Movie Pack	\$30.00	<b>\$26.00</b>
<small>* Includes 2 unrestricted ultimate movie tickets and a \$10 concession gift card</small>		
<b>REGENCY THEATERS</b> - Good Any Time	\$11.50	<b>\$7.00</b>
<b>ULTRASTAR THEATERS</b> - Good Any Time	\$11.25	<b>\$6.00</b>

ATTRACTIONS

	RETAIL	CLUB
<b>AQUARIUM OF THE BAY</b>		
SAN FRANCISCO		
Adult	\$19.95	<b>\$15.96</b>
Child (4 - 12)	\$11.95	<b>\$9.56</b>
<b>AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC</b>		
Adult	\$28.95	<b>\$17.95</b>
Child (3 - 11)	\$14.95	<b>\$10.95</b>
<b>BOOMER'S FUN CENTERS</b>		
SELECT CALIFORNIA LOCATIONS	4 Hour Pass	<b>\$39.99 \$19.99</b>
<b>CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE</b>		
Adult	\$34.95	<b>\$29.71</b>
Child (4 - 11)	\$24.95	<b>\$21.21</b>
Youth (12-17)/ Student (with ID) / Senior (65+)	\$29.95	<b>\$25.46</b>
<b>CATALINA EXPRESS</b>		
Round Trip Fare	Adult	\$76.50 <b>\$62.00</b>
	Child	\$61.00 <b>\$52.50</b>
<b>DAVEY'S LOCKER</b>		
Whale Watching	Adult	\$32.00 <b>\$21.00</b>
	Child	\$26.00 <b>\$15.75</b>
Sport Fishing - 1/2 Day	Adult	\$41.50 <b>\$31.50</b>
	Child	\$34.00 <b>\$25.21</b>
Sport Fishing - 3/4 Day	Adult	\$71.00 <b>\$57.75</b>
	Child	\$61.00 <b>\$47.25</b>
Sunset / Evening Cruise	Adult	\$25.00 <b>\$12.61</b>
<b>GOLF N' STUFF</b>		
3 Hour Unlimited Wristband - (Norwalk Location)	\$30.00	<b>\$16.25</b>
All Park Pass - (Ventura Location)	\$20.00	<b>\$15.25</b>
<b>GRAMMY MUSEUM</b>		
General Admission	\$12.95	<b>\$12.00</b>

★ MORE DISCOUNTS ONLINE! ★

ATTRACTIONS CONT'D

	RETAIL	CLUB
<b>IFLY INDOOR SKYDIVING</b>		
Hollywood - Earn Your Wings Flight Package (Age 3+)	\$59.95	<b>\$39.95</b>
San Francisco - Save 15% Off All Flight Packages	\$59.95	<b>\$50.96</b>
<b>K1 SPEED RACING</b>		
This pass entitles the owner to (1) 14 Lap race and a annual license for the day.	\$25.95	<b>\$15.25</b>
<b>MADAME TUSSAUDS WAX ATTRACTION</b>		
<small>All Access Pass includes Marvel Super Heroes 4D Experience.</small>		
Hollywood	Adult	\$40.00 <b>\$16.00</b>
	Child (4 - 12)	\$35.00 <b>\$13.00</b>
Las Vegas (eTickets Only)	Adult	\$29.95 <b>\$12.50</b>
<b>MEDIEVAL TIMES</b>		
<small>Eticket prices will vary depending on date/time selections.</small>		
	Adult	\$57.95 <b>\$43.50</b>
	Child (0 - 12)	\$35.95 <b>\$31.50</b>
<b>MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM</b>		
	Adult	\$39.95 <b>\$34.95</b>
	Child (3 - 12)	\$24.95 <b>\$19.95</b>
Senior (65+) Student (13 - 17 or with Student ID)	\$34.95	<b>\$29.95</b>
<b>MULLIGAN'S FAMILY FUN CENTER</b>		
All Day Pass	Adult/Child	\$27.99 <b>\$16.50</b>
<small>- Unlimited use of Laser Tag, Miniature Golfing, Go-Karts/Speedway and the Rock Wall. Valid at Mulligan Torrance, Murrieta, and Palmdale.</small>		
<b>PIRATES DINNER ADVENTURE</b>		
	Adult	\$56.95 <b>\$36.00</b>
	Child (3 - 11)	\$37.95 <b>\$27.50</b>
<b>QUEEN MARY</b>		
	Adult	\$24.95 <b>\$20.25</b>
	Child (4 - 11)	\$21.95 <b>\$12.25</b>
<b>RACERS EDGE INDOOR KARTING</b>		
Adult: 16-Lap Adult Race	\$23.00	<b>\$18.00</b>
Junior (50" tall): 11-Lap Junior Race	\$20.00	<b>\$15.00</b>
<b>SANTA MONICA PIER &amp; PACIFIC PARK</b>		
Unlimited Ride Wristband	\$25.95	<b>\$13.50</b>
<b>SANTA CRUZ BOARDWALK COMBO PACK</b>		
General Admission	\$43.00	<b>\$32.95</b>
<small>Package Includes All-Day Ride Wristband, 2 Attraction Tickets - Choose from: The Vault Lazer Maze, Mini Golf, Laser Tag, Bowling (w/shoes), Climb n Conquer or Frigh Walk, Plus \$3 in Arcade Play (comes w/Rechargeable "My Boardwalk" Card)</small>		
<b>SPEEDZONE</b>		
3 Hour Unlimited Pass on Rides and Mini-Golf	\$49.99	<b>\$25.00</b>
<b>USS IOWA</b>		
SAN PEDRO	Adult	\$18.00 <b>\$13.50</b>
	Child (6 - 11)	\$10.00 <b>\$7.50</b>
Senior (62+) or Military (with ID)	\$15.00	<b>\$10.50</b>
<b>USS MIDWAY</b>		
SAN DIEGO	Adult	\$20.00 <b>\$14.00</b>
	Child (6 - 11)	\$10.00 <b>\$7.00</b>
	Senior (62+)	\$17.00 <b>\$11.00</b>

GIFT CERTIFICATES

<b>HONEYBAKED HAM</b>		
\$25 Gift Card	\$25.00	<b>\$22.50</b>
<b>SEE'S CANDIES</b>		
Good for 1lb of chocolate	\$18.50	<b>\$14.25</b>

DECEMBER 2015

ICON REFERENCE

eTicket you can print on demand 24/7

eTicket available Mon - Fri 8AM - 4:00PM

THEME PARKS

		RETAIL	CLUB
<b>ADVENTURE CITY</b>			
	Adult/ Child	\$16.95	<b>\$12.50</b>
<b>DISNEYLAND / CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE</b>			
1 - Day , 1- Park	Adult	\$99.00	<b>\$95.04</b>
	Child (3-9)	\$93.00	<b>\$89.28</b>
1 - Day Park Hopper	Adult	\$155.00	<b>\$142.60</b>
	Child (3-9)	\$149.00	<b>\$137.08</b>
2 - Day, 1 - Park	Adult	\$185.00	<b>\$168.35</b>
	Child (3-9)	\$172.00	<b>\$156.52</b>
2 - Day Park Hopper	Adult	\$225.00	<b>\$204.75</b>
	Child (3-9)	\$212.00	<b>\$192.92</b>
3 - Day, 4 - Day, 5 - Day: 1 Park	( ADDITIONAL PRICES AND DETAILS ONLINE )		
For Annual Pass Info	Call the Ticket Office at (888) 777-1744		
<b>GILROY GARDENS - HOLIDAY LIGHTS</b>			
	General Admission	\$42.00	<b>\$21.00</b>
<b>CASTLE PARK</b>			
	General Admission (over 36")	\$24.99	<b>\$12.99</b>
<b>KNOTT'S BERRY FARM</b>			
	Adult	\$72.00	<b>\$39.00</b>
	Child (3-11), Senior (62+)	\$42.00	<b>\$34.00</b>
Cheaper for eTickets	Adult	\$72.00	<b>\$35.00</b>
	Child (3-11), Senior (62+)	\$42.00	<b>\$32.00</b>
<b>LOS ANGELES ZOO</b>			
	Adult	\$20.00	<b>\$17.00</b>
	Child (2-12)	\$15.00	<b>\$14.00</b>
<b>LEGOLAND</b>			
<b>Includes 2nd Day FREE Expires Dec 31, 2016</b>			
1 - Day , 1- Park	Adult	\$89.00	<b>\$70.00</b>
	Child (3 - 11)	\$83.00	<b>\$65.00</b>
Legoland 5 Day Ticket	Adult	\$113.00	<b>\$103.00</b>
	Child (3 - 11)	\$107.00	<b>\$97.00</b>
Legoland Resort Hopper	Adult	\$113.00	<b>\$75.00</b>
	Child (3 - 11)	\$107.00	<b>\$70.00</b>
<b>MAGIC MOUNTAIN</b>			
	General Admission	\$76.99	<b>\$44.99</b>
<b>SAN DIEGO ZOO / SAFARI PARK</b>			
	Adult	\$50.00	<b>\$41.00</b>
	Child (3 - 11)	\$40.00	<b>\$33.00</b>
2 - Visit Pass*	Adult	\$88.00	<b>\$70.50</b>
	Child (3 - 11)	\$68.00	<b>\$54.40</b>
* May be used for 1 visit at each park, or 2 visit to the same park.			
<b>SEAWORLD - SAN DIEGO</b>			
	Adult	\$89.00	<b>\$63.00</b>
	Child (3 - 9)	\$83.00	<b>\$63.00</b>
<b>Valid until 12/31/16</b>	Fun Card	\$89.00	<b>\$83.00</b>
<b>SIX FLAGS DISCOVERY KINGDOM</b>			
VALLEJO	General Admission (over 48")	\$65.99	<b>\$38.99</b>
<b>UNIVERSAL STUDIOS</b>			
	Adult / Child (under 48")	\$95.00	<b>\$84.00</b>

## SPORTING EVENTS

<b>LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS</b>	Games available online
<b>SAN DIEGO CHARGERS</b>	Games available online
<b>OAKLAND RAIDERS</b>	Games available online

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FREE SHIPPING

Club Members get FREE USPS standard shipping on all tickets and merchandise purchased through the Club.

CLUB DISCOUNT TICKETS ON THIS LIST MAY CHANGE. FOR THE LATEST TICKET PRICES AND AVAILABILITY, GO TO: CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM

The Club works hard to provide you the Cheapest Tickets in the State, however the vendors on this list may update their prices from time to time. For the latest prices and ticket availability, please check the Club's website regularly as the prices on this list may change.

More Items at the Club Store!

CITY OF LOS ANGELES Official City Merchandise

CityEmployeesClub.com



FALEO

Story by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor  
Photos by Fitz Mora



# Funds for Scholarships

**Filipino American law enforcement organization hosts annual dinner.**

On Sept. 26, the Filipino American Law Enforcement Officers Association – Los Angeles Chapter (FALEO – LA) held its annual scholarship dinner and fundraiser at the Doubletree Hotel in Commerce. It was another successful night for the Los Angeles chapter. This year was Hawaiian themed so guests were greeted with leis, live Hawaiian music and a red-carpet entry. The event was action-packed. Revelers were provided a delicious dinner and had the option of enjoying authentic Filipino food. Lechon (a whole roasted pig) and halo halo (traditional dessert) were served. The dinner was emceed by Rembrandt Solis, and entertainment was provided by Hawaiian dancers and comedians Joey Guila and Ron Josol. Judge Rob Villeza was the keynote speaker, and scholarship recipients Olivia Amon and Zachary Lujan were honored. This year once again focused on the importance of family, education, perseverance and hard work.

FALEO-LA's scholarship dinner and fundraiser was a night to remember!



From left: Donald Salvador, FALEO-LA President, Club Member; Gemmaline, Lyla; and Damian Salvador.



Elvis Cruz, Governor, Club Member, and Maria Rongavilla-Cruz, FALEO-LA Director.



Constance Chang, Management Assistant, 9 years of City service, Club Member; and Rodney Bernaldo, Management Analyst, 7 years, Club Member.



Scholarship recipient Zachary Lujan (center), with Maria Rongavilla, FALEO-LA Director, Club Member, and Chris Pagtakhan, Treasurer.



Officer Christian Costales, LAPD, FALEO-LA Sergeant-at-Arms, Club Member; Carla Costales, LA County Probation Officer; and family.



The 2015 FALEO-LA Executive Board and directors with LA County Judge, Rob Villeza (5th from left).



Lechon (roasted pig, a Filipino delicacy).



Live Hawaiian music filled the room.



From left: Sandi Amendola, Los Angeles County Chicano Employees Association, Club Member, and Samantha Amendola.



Jordan Espiritu, FALEO-LA Executive Board, Club Member; and Camille Laurilla, California State nurse, Club Member.



From left: Rene Galana, LA County Program Manager, Dept. of Mental Health, 28 years of County service, Club Member; and Tevy Sithan, LA County Head Child Support Officer, 34 years of County service.



Marcus Ambrozzy and Shelly Scott.



From left: Club Counselors Dalila Vielma, Jeanette Gadut and Noelle Kaufmann.



From left: Vince Osorio, FALEO-LA First Vice President, Club Member; Judge Rob Villeza, LA County; and Donald Salvador, FALEO-LA President, Club Member.



From left: Eileen Huelar, Albert Huelar and Anne Amon.



From left: Jamis Bickel, Sgt. Pauline Panis, FALEO-LA Director and Nikki Bickel.



Performances by Tasty Block.



The dessert line.



Comedian Ron Josol.



Hawaiian dancers and their partners.



Comedian Joey Guila.



Sgt. Mark Amon (center) accepts a scholarship award on behalf of his daughter, Olivia Amon, with (left) Sgt. Pauline Panis, FALEO-LA Director, and (right) Chris Pagtakhan, FALEO-LA Treasurer.



# City Employees Club Store



# GIFTS For Everyone



# Shop Online

## CityEmployeesClub.com



**\$42.00 Member** \$81.99 Non-Member  
**L.A. City Tactical Jacket**  
*Lightweight and available in various colors*



**\$6.00 Member** \$8.50 Non-Member  
**L.A. City Packable Bags**  
*Strong, convenient, and easy to store.*



**\$4.50 Member** \$6.00 Non-Member  
**L.A. City Seal Ornament**  
*Shatter-proof and lightweight.*



**\$24.99 Member** \$48.10 Non-Member  
**L.A. City French Hoodie**  
*Soft and stylish. Available in various colors*



**\$6.50 Member** \$8.50 Non-Member  
**L.A. City Shot Glass**  
*1.5 oz Cobalt Blue with Silver L.A. City Seal*



**\$8.00 Member** \$10.64 Non-Member  
**Belgian Beer Glass**  
*13 oz glass with Silver L.A. City Seal*



**\$5.00 Member** \$7.00 Non-Member  
**L.A. City Bistro Mugs**  
*Available in Red, Black, White, and Navy*



**\$7.00 Member** \$12.00 Non-Member  
**Infuser Water Bottle**  
*Infusers are available in various colors*



**Member Discount**  
**Classic Vintage Style Bags**  
*Various colors and style to choose from*



**\$8.00 Member** \$11.00 Non-Member  
**L.A. City Script Hat**  
*Available in various colors*



**\$15.00 Member** \$20.00 Non-Member  
**10" L.A. City Clock**  
*Also available in black trim (\$10 Members)*



**\$25.00 Member** \$35.00 Non-Member  
**LAPD Dodge Charger Toy**  
*Motorized toy car with lights and sound*





# CLUB EXCLUSIVE

## Holiday Special

### Good Deals Don't Last Very Long!

You worked hard all year long and now it's time for you to relax! Enjoy your holidays with friends and family this year with the following spectacular deals exclusive to Club Members.

**Club Member Exclusive**  
**\$13.50**

Retail Price \$18.50

**See's CANDIES**

### See's Candy

#### Gift Certificate for 1lb of Chocolate

Club members can enjoy a sweet treat at a sweet price! Enjoy a pound of See's candy all by yourself or give it away as gifts during the holidays.

*Limit to 10 gift certificates per member.*

**Club Member Exclusive**  
**\$21.95**

Retail Price \$25.00

**THE HONEYBAKED HAM COMPANY**

### Honey Baked Ham

#### \$25 Gift Card

Celebrate the holidays with a spiral baked ham or any gourmet products at any of the Honey Baked Ham locations. Your discounted gift card can be used at any Honey Baked Ham stores all year long!

*Limit to 4 gift cards per member.*

## Club Deal Expires December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Gift certificates and gift cards are sold on a first come first served basis and are limited to availability. This is a very popular Club Special during the holiday season so order today before they are sold out!



**Available at CityEmployeesClub.com**