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LAPD

Bomb Squad K9 unit fights terrorism with cutting-edge techniques, including some that unleash the highly trained dogs for the first time.

Officer II Vanessa Keortge, Club Member, and her police dog, Riddick.

— PAGE 24

Alive! photo by Tom Hawkins



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Free standard shipping on every merchandise or ticket order



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A Message From the CEO

Managing Many Stories

by John Hawkins,
President and CEO, The Club

A few weeks before Christmas, I received an email from LAPD **Officer Tom DeLuccia**, Club Member, about something he and the Bomb Detection K9 Section were working on. It was new, it was innovative, it was combatting terrorism, it was visual, and the K9 section was one of the first in the nation to implement it. Were we interested?

As we like to say around the Club – *absolutely!* Protecting City residents from terrorism is dangerous work. Anyone who followed the events in Boston knows that. And right here in LA we're implementing new tactics to catch those who would harm us before they ever get started. It's a strong story.

But we were already booked for a few months. *Alive!* is enjoying great popularity, with cover stories backed up for months.

Turns out the February slot became available for unrelated reasons, and so we were able to jump on this right away. As of this writing, not even the Los Angeles *Times* has covered this story. That's how new it is.

And there was another "loose end" that we could follow up on, too. Riddick, the Labrador managed by **Officer Vanessa Keortge** (both are on this month's cover), had a story to tell, in a way. We found out in the middle of last year that Riddick was a war hero and had been reunited with his military manager, the soldier whose life Riddick saved twice. It's a great story, but we just couldn't catch up with it because of all the other stories we had going on. So when we set up our visit to the LAPD Bomb Squad HQ for this month's story, we were delighted to run into Officer Keortge and Riddick, and we were finally able to tell their story properly this month.

As you can see, juggling all the stories that want to appear in *Alive!* is very happy challenge to have, and I'm glad to report that the editorial team does a great job in handling it all.



Alive! features the LAPD on our cover a couple of times a year, on average. (We featured Officer DeLuccia and his then-dog, Rajzi, back in 2009.) Of course we're aware there are many other stories that need to be told, too, stories that come from other departments. We're reaching out and looking to book the rest of the year, especially from departments that haven't been on our cover in awhile. Do you have a story that hasn't been told? Please write to me, so we can get in touch: jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

So let me thank Officers DeLuccia, Keortge and **Ed Dominguez**, and **Sgt. Mitch Lambdin**, for reaching out to us, and letting us tell their story. And for keeping up safe!

Speaking of being booked up with content – whoa, our Valentines feature is exploding! We're at five pages as I write this, and the entries are approaching 80. That's astounding. Frankly, we love that Club Members are in love ... and sharing that with us. That's exactly what *Alive!* should be. There are a couple of Valentines that I found very touching. I'll leave it to you to find some that move you.

Let me pause a minute and congratulate **Jane Galbraith** on her retirement, which is made official this month. In her 15-year City career, Jane was the communications rep in the Mayor's Office before handling the same duties for **Councilmember Tom LaBonge**, Club Member. She then moved over to the PR side of the DWP before retiring.

Alive! and the Club worked with Jane many times in her various capacities, and we always found her positive, responsive and very helpful. Jane, thanks for all you've done for the City, and for the Club.

And so that leaves nothing else to mention but Valentine's Day. Gentlemen, if you're intimidated, forget about the expectations and just spend some simple, quiet quality time with your loved one(s). You'll never regret it. I promise.

-JOHN

jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com

Alive! Behind the Scenes



Club Photographer Tom Hawkins (foreground, left) and Club CEO John Hawkins (background) photograph LAPD Officer II Vanessa Koertge and her service dog, Riddick.

Alive! Cover Picture



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DWP Paymaster	(213) 367-1106
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\$5,176,794

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- **Andrew St. Pierre, December 2014**

The Club's claims service was "very helpful. Everything was done in a very timely manner. [The Fall of Freddie the Leaf] was a great help through a very difficult time in my life."
- **Annie Swan, December 2014**

The Club's claims service was "helpful. The explanation of everything was good and timely."
- **Barbara Block, December 2014**

"I cannot speak more highly of the excellent claims service Monica gave to our needs in processing. Monica was thorough and compassionate, answering questions for me and my five siblings named as beneficiaries. May God bless you in many and special ways as you carry out your work for the Lord. I read [The Fall of Freddie the Leaf], and I was very touched by this extra consideration gesture of compassion."
- **Theodora Leilani McGeoghegan, November 2014**

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

\$5,176,794



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.



Cecilia Talbot, Director of Claims, Member Advocate



Monica Zamudio, Claims Coordinator

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Alive!

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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.

Accounting

2011 President's Award Recipient



Leigh Thompson, *Controller*
Trinh Pham, *Senior Accountant*

Information Technology

2007 President's Award Recipient



Michael Anderson, *Information Technology Manager*
Alan Bound, *Information Technology Programmer*

Marketing

2005 President's Award Recipient



Summy Lam, *Director of Marketing*



John Hawkins, *President & CEO*
Brian Trent, *Chief Financial Officer*
Robert Larios, *Vice President of Operations, "Sports Dude", "Chef Larios" and "Discount King"*

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Cecilia Talbot, *Director of Claims, Member Advocate*

2010 President's Award Recipient



Monica Zamudio, *Claims Coordinator*

Claims



Katie Hesseltine, *Application Coordinator*



Jennifer Shackelford, *Application Coordinator*

2013 "Absolutely" Award Recipient



Mariana Guevara, *Club Store Manager*



Megan DeBolt, *Club Store Assistant Manager*



Alma Meza, *Customer Service Associate*



MaryAnn Urdiales, *Customer Service Associate*



Guadalupe Lira, *Customer Service Associate*

Club Store

2003 President's Award Recipient



Arlene Herrero, *Director of Product Development*
Ext. 103



Noelle Kauffman, *Club Member Services Coordinator*
Ext. 105



Jeanette Gadut, *Club Member Services Counselor*
Ext. 110

Retirees



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

City Employees Retirement System

Call me!
(800) 464-0452

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

Angel Gomez, *Director of Sales*
Ext. 104



2008 President's Award Recipient

Gedina Bergstrom, *Member Services Counselor*
Ext. 107



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

Jackie Burciaga, *Member Services Counselor*
Ext. 136



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

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

Enrollment Team



Lucas Everett, *Member Services Counselor*



Steven Lambert, *Member Services Counselor*



Sheldon Sklar, *Member Services Counselor*

Tell us what you think! talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

Letters to the Editor

LETTERS OF THE MONTH



Dominique Is Picture Perfect

Thanks so much for spotlight Dominique Daito and his amazing photography [Alive! cover story, January]. His photographs are truly stunning.

I really enjoy reading Alive! Thanks for all your hard work, staff included.

– Stephanie Burkhart,
PSR III, LAPD/Communications

My thanks to the Club, staff and John Hawkins for bringing to us the "Picture Perfect" contest. I cannot believe it has been 10 years – that is an incredible feat. Congratulations!

I know I like seeing the photos, and let me say that these pictures that members take are truly works of art. Sometimes I can see the emotion in the faces or the grandeur of the landscapes. I look forward to seeing many more newspaper editions filled with these amazing photos.

– Joann Wainwright, LAFD

Daily Bulletin Leads Miles To Research a Runaway

I read the "History Comes Alive!" article in the January issue about the police's Daily Bulletin. How times have changed. Today's technology makes this kind of news available almost instantly. I couldn't help read the Daily Bulletin from April 28, 1922 about the runaway boy, Robert Rutherford. I thought to myself, "I sure hope that boy turned out all right." I also thought to a Google search on Rutherford and I may have found him. Though I can't be 100 percent sure, it looks like he was a World War II vet and lived a long life before dying just recently. Technology is just amazing, and I can only imagine what we will have available in 100 years.

– Miles Gunther, General Services

Seeing a 'People We See' Makes It Real for Cindy

Whoa! I think I have seen the homeless fellow, Troy Mertlich, over by Angel's Flight after I read the "People We See" article about him in the January newspaper! Sometimes seeing someone in person and in newspapers make it all very real. These are real people!

– Cindy Ochoa, LAPD

E-Tickets Just Another Great Benefit of Being Club Member

I am new to the City and I am just in awe with the ticket prices at the Club. They are the lowest I have seen anywhere! On top of that, the e-ticket offerings are expanding what seems every other week. I just heard that the Club offers e-tickets for Knotts, Catalina Express and Madame Tussauds Wax Museum? City Employees are truly missing out and spending too much money if they don't become a Member!

– B. Johnson, DWP

Club's Office Depot Discount Comes in Handy Once Again

Just like Roger Larsen last month, I went

over to Office Depot over the holiday season and picked up some great savings with my Club Membership. Once I registered my credit card for the Club's discount, I went over to the nearest Office Depot from my house and picked up printer ink, paper and some light bulbs for a total of \$89.48. When I used my Club-linked credit card, my total dropped to \$78.12! I am loving the Club!

– Myra Kelly, Retired

West Valley Sanitation's Charity Does a Lot for Holiday Families

Those employees from the West Valley Sanitation yard are doing a lot of great work for the community. I want to commend them for the work they do during the holidays as they try to give happiness to families during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Good job and keep it up! Thank you for all that you do!

– Penny Harkins, City Clerk

David Writes to Alive!, Completing the Circle

To the Editor:

A tip of my pen to Alive! editor John Burnes for the wonderful write-up about my fun hobby as a writer of letters to newspapers.

And for the record, the New York Times has published seven of my letters, if you count my latest Jan. 15 letter, which was published online only. Here it is:

To the Editor:

Re your Jan. 8 news article about the decision to end the ban on cellphones in New York City public schools:

Pity the poor teachers who most certainly will hear the cellphone ringtones of students going off throughout the day, thanks to Mayor Bill de Blasio's ill-advised action.

As for the students who said they would use their cellphones to "check-in with their parents," I say, stop it. Students need to check with in with their teachers (who are responsible for their safety), not their parents, who are not even on site.

– David Tulanian, Library

Robert's Question of the Month

BY ROBERT LARIOS, Club VP of Operations
rlarios@cityemployeesclub.com



Fellow Club members answer the Question of the Month

What's a great place for a meal on a date?



"There is no other place like Olvera Street. I like the birria at Memo's, and my wife loves the tacos and chile relleños there! Try them; do it!"

– Luis Hernandez, Laborer, Airports, 18 years of City service, Club Member since 2014



"Bourbon Street Seafood in San Antonio or Haime's Seafood in Charleston, S.C.!"

– Samuel R. Smith, DWP, Retired, 37 years of City service, Club Member since 2009



"Yamashiro in Hollywood."

– Jeff DiFiore, Public Works/Sanitation, 1 year of City Service



"Javier's in Newport Beach, with the great view of the ocean. Can't beat that!"

– Eric McCarter, Public Works/Sanitation, 13 years of City service, Club Member since 2003



"Go to Long Beach and experience Periguete Restaurant!"

– Jose Ordorica, Public Works/Sanitation, 2 years of City service, Club Member since 2013



"Any place you can enjoy each other's company."

– Rafael Larios, father of Robert Larios, the Club's VP of Operations



"Frida in Glendale – great atmosphere and drinks!"

– Lucille Ordenez, Transportation, 16 years of City Service, Club Member since 2003



"Why that's easy... sweep 'em off their feet at Souplantation, Pasadena! Gotta keep 'em fit and plump!, right honey bunch? ;D"

– Maurice Hyett, Construction and Maintenance Supervisor II, General Services



"Cafe Beaujolais, 1712 Colorado Blvd, Eagle Rock. A moderately priced french restaurant with gracious personnel that make you feel like you could be in France."

– Nick Pendorf, Director of Construction Forces, General Services, 29 years of City service, Club Member since 2007

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Note: The Club Store will be closed Feb. 16 in observance of Presidents' Day.

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---	---	--

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Patty Pulido
Personal Insurance Agent



Rosa Calderon
Personal Insurance Agent



Xavier Rodriguez
Personal Insurance Agent





LAFD Chaplain Danny Leon recites a Memorial Prayer.



Battalion Chief Dan McCarty, TAPS.



Former Fire Chief William Bamattre, Retired.



LAFD "10" Bells final tribute.



Fire trucks carry the American flag.



Capt. I Steve Owens, Retired, hosted the event.



Bagpiper Thomas Allen.



Nicole Pinel, daughter of fallen Firefighter Benjamin Pinel, Fire Station 54 "A" Platoon.



LAFD Air Support.



Families at the Wall of Memories.



A vintage fire truck.



In the Fire Museum.

LAFD

Story and photos by Isabel Marquez



Remembering The Fallen

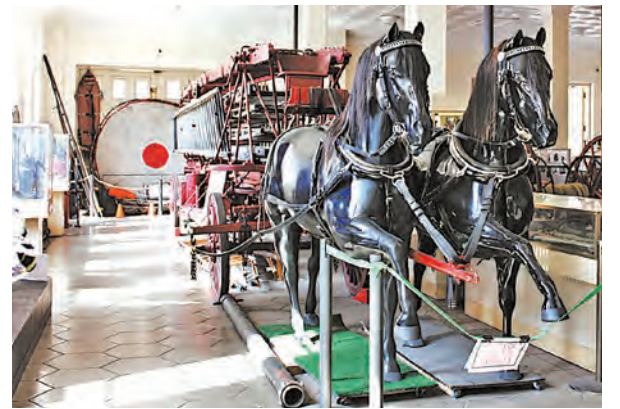
Fire Dept. hosts annual memorial ceremony.

On Oct. 11, the LAFD held its annual Memorial Ceremony to remember all Firefighters who lost their lives in service. The Memorial Ceremony is held every year at the LAFD Museum, 1355 N. Cahuenga Blvd. in Hollywood, on the second weekend of October.

The ceremony consisted of several members of the Fire Dept. providing a message of comfort to those families in attendance who have lost a loved one in the line of duty or due to a work-related loss. Each year, new names are added to the wall, where 264 names are currently listed of those who have lost their lives. The names date back to 1886.

Other memorial services are held throughout the nation on the same weekend. This weekend helps families that have lost a loved one to gather together and share comforting stories.

The Club thanks the Fire LAFD for sharing this event with us, and also thanks Capt. Woolf, Chaplain.



An old carriage inside the museum.



A vintage Fire Dept. car.



Fire Commissioner Andrew Glazier.



Chuong Ho, Firefighter, Union Vice President, 11 years of City service, with his children.



Mario Rueda, Chief Deputy, Emergency Operations.



LA City Firefighters at the ceremony.



Carol Pinel and Nicole Pinel, family members of Fallen Firefighter Benjamin Pinel.



Brianna and Louie Bookout, and Alex Strahl sing "Amazing Grace."



Families leave roses on the Wall of Memories.



Danny Leon, LAFD Chaplain.



Mr. LA, Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Club Member.



LAFD Chaplain Craig Poulson.



A vintage Fireman suit.



Families at the Wall of Memories.



Club Featured Businesses

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, please contact the Club at info@cityemployeesclub.com to start your ad placement right away!

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Baby giraffe with mom.

Zoo
 Story courtesy April Spurlock, Zoo;
 Photos by Tad Motoyama, Zoo

Babies Galore

Zoo welcomes winter babies.

Artemus, 18. This is the second calf for Hasina, who came from the San Diego Zoo in 2010. The baby currently stands at around 6 feet tall and weighs close to 150 pounds.

This is a birth the L.A. Zoo is thankful for as the population of giraffes across the African continent is drastically declining due to hunting and habitat loss. A local couple also felt a connection to the baby giraffe as they made the decision to adopt the baby. In making a significant gift to the Zoo's animal acquisition fund, which promotes vital wildlife preservation and breeding projects here and around the world, donors Patricia and Stanley Silver have chosen to formally name the baby giraffe Leo. Mrs. Silver, a Zoo foundation trustee, named the baby "for my father, Leo Guthman, because he would be so proud to be a part of the Los Angeles Zoo."

Leo can now be seen on exhibit with the other giraffes daily, weather permitting.



LA zoo giant river otter pups.

There have been a few exciting animal additions over the holidays that can now be seen at the Los Angeles Zoo.

Three giant otter pups, one male and two female, born Sept. 14, recently went outside for the first time with their parents to learn to swim in their new habitat in the Rainforest of the Americas exhibit. These babies are the first litter to be introduced to the public since the exhibit opened in April. Up until recently, the parents were teaching the babies to swim in a small pool in their holding area off-exhibit until they were ready to be introduced to the larger pools in the outdoor habitat.

"The babies have picked up swimming very fast," said Jennie Becker, Curator of Mammals at Los Angeles Zoo. "The parents are excellent teachers. The staff provided the water and a small pool, but it was the parents putting the babies in the water and encouraging them to swim."

The giant otter babies can now be viewed on exhibit with their parents daily, unless the parents choose to bring them inside or weather permitting.

The Zoo also welcomed a male Masai giraffe calf, born on Nov. 20, 2014 to parents Hasina, six years old, and

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Alive! AROUND THE WORLD



1 Central Asia

Here's intrepid traveler and honored **Director of the Griffith Observatory, Ed Krupp, Rec and Parks, Club Member.**

"Last October I led a Far Horizons tour to Central Asia that began with a nonstop flight from Los Angeles to Istanbul. An overnight there allowed me to get back to one of the city's most celebrated monuments, the sixth-century Hagia Sophia Eastern Orthodox cathedral. It was turned into a mosque in 1453 and then transformed into an historic, secular museum in 1935 by Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey."



Hagia Sophia, Sultanahmet Square, Istanbul, Turkey



Erk Kala, Merv, Turkmenistan



Ulugh Beg observatory meridian arc remains, Samarkand, Uzbekistan

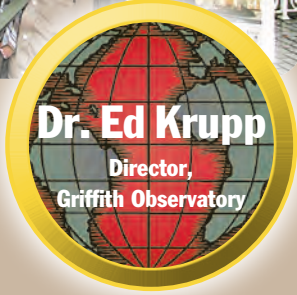
"From Turkmenistan, we continued east to Uzbekistan, and the ruins of the observatory the ruler Ulugh Beg built in Samarkand were an objective of the trip. In the 15th century, Ulugh Beg was the best astronomer in the world, but only the below-ground-level segment of his giant meridian arc has survived. It is now protected by a modern structure. Here the view is south toward the bottom of the arc. The meridian arc in Griffith Observatory's Gottlieb Transit Corridor owes a debt to Ulugh Beg."

"From Istanbul, we flew to Turkmenistan. Here I am at the summit of high point on the south rim of the Oval Citadel at the ancient Silk Road city of Merv. It was first built by the Achaemenid Persians in the sixth/fifth centuries B.C., but the successors of Alexander the Great turned it into a provincial capital and renamed it after Alexander. The big mound behind me once supported the acropolis of the Greek capital."



Total lunar eclipse live on a smartphone
Ulugh Beg observatory, Samarkand, Uzbekistan

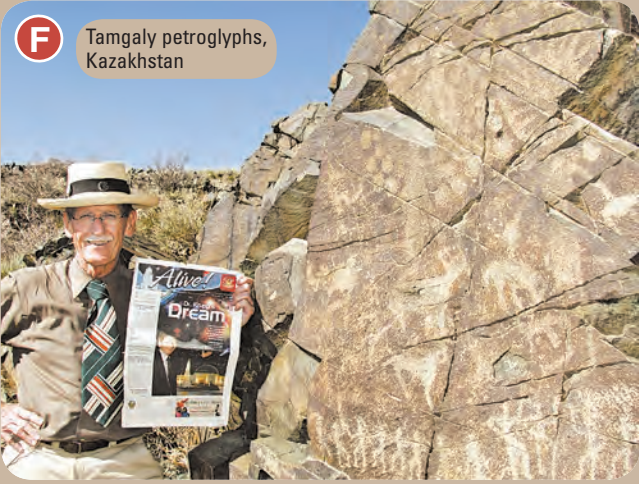
"The Oct. 8 total lunar eclipse took place at about 3 a.m. in Los Angeles but was invisible in Uzbekistan, which is 12 hours later than California. When we reached the site of Ulugh Beg's observatory at 3 p.m. on Oct. 8, the eclipse was under way but could not be seen because the moon was below the horizon in Samarkand. Our guide, Mohammadjon Yunusov, however, pulled his Samsung smartphone out of his pocket, activated his WiFi hotspot, downloaded an app for livestream video, accessed the Griffith Observatory Website, set the phone against the wall just inside the entrance of the viewing platform for the remains of Ulugh Beg's observatory, and caught the eclipse live on astronomically historic ground. NASA and major news agencies also transmitted the Griffith Observatory video feed and allowed tens of millions of viewers around the planet to see the eclipse."



"Administered by the Uzbek Academy of Sciences, the Ulugh Beg Astronomical Institute in Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan, has a modest astronomy museum and a small observatory. Dr. Chori Sherdonov, a professional astronomer, captured the sun for us with a small, properly filtered refracting telescope. We were also assisted at the Institute by a volunteer guide, Sobit Ilyasov."



Ulugh Beg Astronomical Institute, Tashkent, Uzbekistan



Tamgaly petroglyphs, Kazakhstan

"Kazakhstan is still farther to the east, and from Almaty we drove several hours and about 100 miles to the Tamgaly petroglyph site, where thousands of prehistoric images were carved on stone. Most of these are as old as the Bronze Age, and the radiant-headed figures above the animals on the panel to the right are perhaps affiliated with the sun."

2 Croatia



"Here I am standing on the front porch of my home on the island of Zirje while vacationing in Croatia. Upon retirement, this is where I will be spending six months out of the year. In keeping with the tradition of the Ship's Carpenter shop at the Harbor Department, we always take our photos with *Alive!* with Joannie Mukai on the cover in her honor."

- Nikola Jurat, Harbor



Take the Club with you, wherever you go!

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



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

Airports

Story courtesy Sgt. Karla Ortiz, Airport Police; Photo by CSI Officer Shawn Smith, Airport Police

A New Officer

Airport Police graduates a new officer.

Recent Los Angeles Police Academy graduate Officer Daniel Pham joined the ranks as the newest member of the Airport Police. The graduation took place Dec. 23 at the LAPD Administration Building downtown.

Officer Daniel Pham was a squad leader for his class and represented the Airport Police proudly. After the ceremony, Chief Patrick Gannon personally conducted Officer Pham's swearing-in. He also spoke to his family about his expectations of an Airport Police Officer and thanked the family for their support.

In attendance at the graduation were Asst. Airport Police Chiefs Brian Walker and Michael Hyams, Capts. Greg Staar and Fernando Castro, Academy Drill Instructor Adela Lopez, Training Unit Officers Errol Priestley and Ciro Benitez, CSI Officer Shawn Smith and Veronica Jackman.



From left: Airport Police Capt. Fernando Castro, Asst. Chief Brian Walker, Chief of Police Patrick M. Gannon, Officer Daniel Pham, Asst. Chief Michael Hyams and Capt. Greg Staar.

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City Stars

BY NOELLE KAUFFMAN, Club Coordinator
nkauffman@cityemployeesclub.com



"Favorite Supervisor"

Chuck Smith,
Mechanical
Repair General
Supervisor, Harbor



Supervisor Shoutout!

Here's a holdover from *Alive!*'s City Stars feature last year.

Late last year, *Alive!* held a "Favorite Supervisor" feature, asking Club Members to submit their favorite supervisor for recognition.

Here's a holdover entry from Joe Maldonado, Harbor. Thanks, Joe!

"Our favorite Supervisor is Chuck Smith," Joe writes. "He has been at the Port of Los Angeles for more than 30 years."

"Chuck is currently the Mechanical Repair General Supervisor and has more than 50 employees under his jurisdiction. He is well respected by his peers and subordinates, but most of all really cares about each and every employee."

"He is truly a long-term dedicated City Employee, and the Port of Los Angeles is fortunate to have such a dedicated individual."



The Smart Move

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

Do You Need Accident Coverage?

Here are a few facts to consider from the National Center for Health Statistics:

Nearly 40 percent of self-reported injuries leading to hospitalization occurred during sports or leisure activities, and 44 percent occurred in or around the home.

When nonfatal injuries are specified, falls are the leading cause of inpatient and outpatient care in emergency rooms, outpatient clinics and doctors' offices

Injuries due to motor vehicle accidents, overexertion and strenuous movements, as well as striking against or being struck accidentally by an object, also make up a large portion of injuries

Accidents happen to other people . . . until they happen to you.

After an accident, you may have expenses you've never thought about before. Can your finances handle them? Without a steady paycheck for months, and sometimes years, individuals and families are faced with tough choices — what debts and bills to pay first, and which ones to defer. But what happens if more than a job is lost? Accidents that interrupt, or end, a paycheck occur every day, both on and off the job.

Increasingly, American workers are finding it essential to have a backup plan to counter the uncertainty that an injury could create to their personal finances. You need to ask questions about your current coverage and consider the potential financial impact from a serious injury — not the cost of treating a sprained ankle but big expenses from an accident. You're probably going to need some help. That's why you should consider Accident Medical

Expense, 24-hour accident insurance that offers simple, affordable coverage to help you and your family if an unexpected accident happens to you

Accident Medical Expense: How It Works

Accident Medical Expense is simple, guaranteed-issue 24-hour accident insurance. You'll receive cash benefits for the following expenses that may not be fully covered by your major medical insurance:

1. Uninsured or underinsured medical expenses
2. Accidental death
3. Catastrophic accidental loss – loss of sight, hearing, speech, both arms, both legs

Some of the ways in which to use your cash benefit:

1. To cover medical cost deductibles, prescriptions, second opinions, experimental treatments, out-of-network expenses
2. For mortgage, auto loan or credit-card payments
3. For monthly utility and grocery bills
4. Expenses for childcare

Patrick Miller represents **Dearborn Insurance**, the Club's new partner for three areas— critical illness insurance, retirement income and accident medical expenses. Currently, the Club offers three Dearborn products: the Security Builder Plan, the Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan, and Accident Medical Expense Plan. Ask your Club Counselor for details. Contact Dearborn National at (888) 443-8829.

RLACEI

Photo by Robert Larios, Club Vice President of Operation

Mike on a Bike

Retiree Mike Wilkinson stays active, keeps fit.

Here's Mike Wilkinson, Retired, City Attorney's Office, biking his way to better health along the Los Angeles River. As a frequent bicyclist, he writes about staying fit in his entry this month in the Best Years column. See page 12. (You can read his updates on pension matters each month in *Alive!*)

Mike is a commissioner on the LACERS board and is running for re-election. He's also a director for the Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI).



Mike Wilkinson, Retired, City Attorney's Office, keeps fit by biking along the LA River.

{ Who are the people you see every day? }

No. 71 in a series.



People We See

an interview on the streets downtown

Meet Terrence Robinson.

with John Hawkins,
Club CEO



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blankets to those in need (blankets cost \$7 each).

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Creative Solutions – Fred Fowlks and Sue Manzo, LAFD.

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

jhawkinscityemployeesclub.com or agomez@cityemployeesclub.com



AGE: "I'm 45 (46 on Feb. 4)."
BIRTHPLACE: "Grove Hill, Ala."
MARITAL STATUS: "Single."
FAMILY: "I have four brothers and one sister."
EDUCATION: "I graduated from high school, and I also spent some time at UC San Diego. All in all, I probably have a total of two and a half years of college under my belt."
MILITARY SERVICE: "I joined the marines back in '89 and went through boot camp, but then, after a year of playing soldier, I was caught partying too hard. They caught me wandering the halls on acid and was quickly removed from the Corps."
TROPHIES/AWARDS: "I got a TRW scholarship in high school."
PLAY SPORTS? "In high school I ran track, the one-mile and two-mile. I also cycled a lot, mainly road bikes. I raced them, too."
WHEN MOVED TO LA: "My dad actually drove me to L.A. from Alabama. I was living with my mom at the time, as my parents were separated. My dad decided it would be better for me to see the bright lights of L.A. and maybe find a career."
WHERE DO YOU LIVE? "It depends. Last night I slept in the Second Street tunnel. It wasn't too bad. Traffic is light until around 7 a.m. or so, and there are other people sleeping there, so it's somewhat safe. Tonight, who knows where I'll sleep."
RELIGION: "I'm spiritual, yeah. I'm Christian, but I respect all

religions. My dad was a Muslim, and I toyed around with all sorts of religions."
FAVORITE MOVIE: "*Princess Bride*, *Full Metal Jacket*."
FAVORITE TV SHOW: "*Star Trek*, the original one with Shatner. But I don't want you to think I'm a sci-fi nut."
FAVORITE ACTOR: "Clint Eastwood."
FAVORITE FOOD: "I love Southern comfort food - chicken, cornbread, black-eyed peas."
FAVORITE MUSIC: "Jazz, blues and ol' '70s rock and roll, like the Doors, Zeppelin."
FAVORITE PLACE IN THE CITY: "I really like the water plaza, up near the Wells Fargo building."
LAST BOOK YOU READ: "*A Wrinkle in Time*."
LAST JOB: "When I was working about 20 years ago, I was a computer guy, kind of a consultant. I made good money but blew it on partying, you know, alcohol and drugs."
FIRST NIGHT ON THE STREET: "It was 20 years ago. I had broken up with my girlfriend because I caught her cheating on me. I was partying very hard, but after the cheating thing I took it up a notch. I took a bus up from San Diego to L.A. with all my stuff. I remember walking out of the Greyhound station with no place to go, just me and two bags. It started raining, and I found an awning to get under. I sold three leather jackets I had to some street people, took the money and bought drugs. I

later fell asleep somewhere, wet, miserable and missing my bags. And that's where it started."
LAST THING EATEN: "Hummus and cheese crackers."
FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORY: "My fondest memories were hanging out with my grandparents. They pretty much raised me."
FRIENDS: "Too many."
MOST PRIZED POSSESSION: "My motorcycle jacket. I bought it for \$1 off a guy on the street. I love this thing!"
HOW TO HELP THE HOMELESS IF YOU WERE MAYOR: "I would focus on creating shelter for us, and a place to store our belongings."
ORGANIZATION THAT'S THE BIGGEST HELP: "Alcoholics Anonymous has been really good for a philosophical basis - I'm not really an alcoholic, but I like A.A. I don't like hangovers, so I don't drink much."
IF YOU HAD \$1 MILLION: "I'd give it away. I would be blessed ten-fold."
IN FIVE YEARS: "I would like to have a little electronics store. I definitely don't see myself sleeping on the street."
ADVICE FOR EVERYDAY PEOPLE: "Judge not, lest you be judged."

The Club gave Terrence 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 Jan. 23 at Second and Spring Streets.

{ 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.

Harbor

Story and photo courtesy Harbor

Gazsi Is New Deputy Chief



Port Police has new deputy chief.

Dep. Chief Tom Gazsi.

The Harbor has appointed Tom Gazsi, the former City of Costa Mesa Police Chief, as a new deputy chief of police. Gazsi will oversee the Emergency Management and Field Operations Group for the Port Police.

"We're very fortunate to have Tom as part of our Port Police executive command team," said Port Police Chief Ronald Boyd. "Someone of his caliber and depth of emergency services experience will be a great asset as we look to further develop our emergency preparedness and disaster planning efforts."

Reporting to Chief Boyd, Gazsi joins two other chiefs on the Port Police executive command team – Assistant Chief Michael Hillman, who handles day-to-day Port Police operations, and Deputy Chief Paul Lipscomb, who oversees the Port's Maritime Law Enforcement Training Center (MLETC) training and development activities.

Gazsi's emergency management responsibilities will include planning and managing resources for emergency events and disasters, whether natural or man-made. He will also oversee emergency preparedness for the Port's 43 linear miles of waterfront and 7,500 acres that make up the Port complex.

"I'm excited about this unique opportunity to specialize in emergency management, particularly in the maritime environment," said Gazsi. "Minimizing the impact of an emergency or disaster starts with effective planning and training, so that will be an immediate priority in the days ahead."

Gazsi served as Chief of the Costa Mesa Police Dept. for three years. Prior to that, he was with the Newport Beach Police Dept. for 32 years, where he began as a cadet in 1979 and rose to the rank of captain.

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– SEE PAGE 47

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SEEN Around Town By Jennifer Shackelford, Club Application Coordinator

Microwaves!

In a world where all of your communication needs fit snugly in your pocket, it can be easy to forget that once upon a time, not that long ago, the world was a very different place... communications wise.

AT&T used to handle not only our long distance needs but also government communications and, up until the 1980s, your TV was likely brought to you via their Microwave System. Also known as AT&T Long Lines, they were mostly built in the 50s and early 60s. From the time the network took over, a good part of transcontinental traffic used those towers..."following a high frequency path from one point to another, amplified at each tower and retransmitted to the next one, until it was finally switched into the local telephone company's central office, and from there to your home."

Bandwidth ultimately killed the microwave system as fiber optics can carry so much more information, and with the proliferation of the Internet, bandwidth killed the Long Lines.

Many of the old microwave towers have now been repurposed into cell towers and continue to live on in a communication capacity.

If you would like to see what an old Microwave System Tower looks like, you have only to wander the streets of downtown Los Angeles and look up. The AT&T building was built in 1961, and still has its microwave horn antennas on proud display. This little piece of communications history is still here for us all to enjoy.

The AT&T building with Microwave Horn Antennas is located at 420 South Grand Avenue.

THIS MONTH AT THE

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium

A REC AND PARKS FACILITY

Walk Cabrillo

Sat., Feb 21
2 - 4 p.m.

Pack a snack and join a walk guided by Cabrillo Aquarium's education staff. Starting at the aquarium courtyard, you'll visit the native garden, salt marsh, beaches and tide pools. Explore each habitat and discover signs of the season along the shore. Examine fossils, native plants and beach wrack.

Registration required for groups; call (310) 548-7562.

Open to all ages. Parking: \$1/hour.

Support the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium!

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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

March 4: LARFPA general meeting, Grace E. Simons Lodge, Los Angeles

April 19: RLACEI general meeting, 11:30 a.m., Friendship Auditorium, Los Angeles

June 3: LARFPA general meeting and annual barbecue, Grace E. Simons Lodge, Los Angeles

June 4: RLACEI golf tournament, 7:30 a.m., Alhambra Municipal Golf Course, Alhambra

Aug. 13: RLACEI annual picnic, 11:30 a.m., Grace E. Simons Lodge, Los Angeles

Sept. 2: LARFPA general meeting, Grace E. Simons Lodge, Los Angeles

Oct. 8: RLACEI annual corporation meeting and elections, 11:30 a.m., Friendship Auditorium, Los Angeles

Dec. 2: LARFPA general meeting, Grace E. Simons Lodge, Los Angeles

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

TBD: LARFPA Christmas party

RLACEI Website

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

Contact 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

DWP Retirees Association



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

Los Angeles Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)



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

Keeping Pensions, and Ourselves, Fit in 2015

RLACEI

2010 Club Excellence Award Recipient



Ed Harding

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

Our Directors and I wish all our members a very happy and healthy New Year!

I hope all of you had as nice a holiday as my wife, Martha, and I had. On Dec. 25, we enjoyed the holiday with the family we have in California. On the 26th we enjoyed the holiday with the family we have in Lake Tahoe and Minden, Nev. We have three daughters and a son and their

families in Nevada, and they made sure that we were well entertained the eight days that we were there.

It snowed one day while we were there, with a record-breaking cold day, but our home in Minden kept us nice and warm, and so did all the casinos.

What was really spectacular was the fireworks from the tops of all the casinos in Reno.

On a different note, I am going to continue to urge you to vote for Michael R. Wilkinson for LACERS Commissioner. I also

want you to urge your retired friends to vote for him. He took Ken Spiker's place and is doing a great job. He will be coming up for reelection in March.

We all benefit by reelecting Michael. We need someone who will fight to preserve pension benefits that we worked hard for. Also, he will keep us informed on current pension status on our monthly *Alive!* newspaper.

Please mark all RLACEI events in your 2015 calendar beginning with our April 9 annual general meeting. See you there.

Why Our Board Seat Matters



Michael R. Wilkinson

LACERS Board Update, By Michael R. Wilkinson

Now is a good time to reflect on why it is important to all retirees to have an elected member on the LACERS Board of Administration. As retirees, we get to elect only one member, while the mayor appoints four members and the active members elect two. We need to have someone fighting for preserving not only the pension side of the retirement system, but also our benefits.

This article will touch on both the importance of our benefits, but also one more shameless plug for good health through our innovative LACERS Well program directed by Tara Miller.

As retirees, we are fortunate to have one of the best – and best funded – retiree health benefit plans. LACERS provides health, vision and dental benefits with one of the highest level of ben-

efits compared to other public retirement plans.

In addition, LACERS has been "prefunding" or putting money away for future retiree health benefits for years. This action was noted by a recent Pew Foundation study that rated LACERS the top big city retiree health plan for its financial strength and stability.

As you know, the idea of providing fair benefits to retired public employees has been whipped up into a negative frenzy by some newspapers eager to drive a wedge between public employees and the people we have served.

However, the LACERS Board was pleased that the Los Angeles City Council recently approved the Board's request to increase the maximum subsidy for health benefits, keeping pace with the two-party Kaiser rate. This outcome was the direct result of hard work by the staff, our Benefits Administration Committee, and our Board President, Jaime Lee.

Last month, Tara Miller agreed to share her New Year's health and exercise tips in this space, to which I would like to add a few thoughts of my own, in the spirit of the LACERS Well theme. Find something that you like to do and set out to do it on a regular basis. For some it is running, for others doing some local stairs, or even just a brisk walk around the block. Start with an easy goal like going on a fast walk for 20 minutes, twice a week, and add to it as it becomes a habit.

My joy is cycling, but I don't get out every day. If it is not going to be a cycling day, I try to get in a 30 minute dog walk in my neighborhood that has some hills and mix a little running with the fast walk. Whatever you decide to do for exercise, make sure you settle on something that is satisfying to you. If you view it as a chore, it will never become part of your regular routine. Have fun and stick with it.

Good News, Bad News With Local Pensions



Michael Karsch

Legislative Report: Pension Law and Policy, By Michael Karsch

The City got some good news from Moody's Investor Services that the City's rating went from A2 to A1 for its lease ratings (general obligation bonds' ratings remained at Aa2). Moody's sited "a resilient and growing tax base, a highly diverse economy and gradually growing reserves." This includes reductions in the fixed costs of pensions and retiree health benefits, reduction in the size of the workforce by 5,000 employees, continued increases in the hotel tax and the docu-

mentary transfer tax (local tax on properties bought/sold, reflecting the improvement in the real estate market), and significant job growth.

The State of California is facing a serious problem in its funding of the health benefits of retired State employees. Roughly 200,000 retirees could have future costs of healthcare of \$71.8 billion, according to outgoing State Controller John Chiang (who becomes the State Treasurer, based on his election last November). The State is making a payment of \$250 million for such benefits in fiscal 2015-16, with increasing payments over the next five years. The goal is to make healthcare for State retirees

pre-funded by 2020. City retirees should recall that their City has been pre-funding retiree health care since 1995, one of the first large cities in the country to do so.

Need more assurances that you are part of a solid, reliable pension system? Look at what is happening in the private sector with multi-employer pension plans. Recently passed federal spending bill permits benefit cuts for retirees in this type of pension plan. This kind of plan is usually a plan set up by labor unions where there is no plan by the employer. The affected retirees number approximately one million nationwide. The cuts are reductions in pension checks.



See the story with Mike's cycling on page 9!

LACERS Update



Mary Beetz

Annual Notice Of Right To Elect Or Revoke Federal Income Tax Withholding

This annual notice is provided to notify you of your right to change your Federal income tax withholding if you choose to make changes. For year 2015, if the taxable portion of your total annual LACERS benefit payments is less than \$20,640, you are not required to elect Federal income tax withholding. You may have to consider the potential of a 0% - 3% Annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) in July 2015 if you are approaching this annual limit.

A. If you choose NOT to make changes:

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

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

- You must complete a new Form W-4P, and return it to LACERS. You may obtain Form W-4P on the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Internet website at www.irs.gov, or by contacting LACERS at (800 779-8328).
- LACERS will process your request by the first day of the month that is at least 30 days after we receive the form.

Send to:

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

Fax to:

(213) 473-7202
Attn: Membership Processing Unit

Remember, your Federal income tax liability is based on your total income, not just your LACERS retirement benefits. You may incur penalties from the Internal Revenue Service if your withholding and estimated tax payments are not sufficient. If you need assistance in estimating your tax, you should consult with the IRS or your tax advisor.

LACERS

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

Life After Retirement



As a Reminder:

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

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

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

Mail information to:

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

Joining LARFPA Is Good Way to Protect Our Benefits

LARFPA



Lee Kebler

There should be good news from federal legislators in the near future. Representative Louise Slaughter and Sen. John Rockefeller have sponsored the Employee Benefits Protection Act of 2014 and the Bankruptcy Fairness and Employee Benefits Protection Act of 2014. Among the items these bills would amend are the National Labor Relations Act, to prohibit any employer or union making a contract or agreement that would termi-

nate or reduce a retiree's healthcare benefit for an individual who had already retired under terms of a prior contract.

This needs the support of our members, both nationally and locally. It's necessary for all our retirees to support this legislation and hope it reduces the number of reformers and politicians who are trying to remove or reduce some of the benefits that we have earned over the years. The best way to support this

legislation is to be a member of our association. If you are not a member but retired or are active with more than 20 years of service, call our office and request an application. We need everyone's help to prevent erosion of our benefits.

I'm looking forward to seeing some of you at our next general meeting at Grace E. Simons Lodge March 4. For more information, call our office at (888) 288-5073.

Show Us Your Grandkids!

Here's **Debora Fore, LAPD, Retired**, with granddaughters SaNae and Samiyah, and daughter, LaNia. "Samiyah attends Gahr High School in Cerritos. She is in the 11th grade. Samiyah is very active in various school organizations. She has a beautiful voice and currently is one of the lead singers in her high school chorus. The photo was taken at her 16th birthday party. "The second photo is of myself, daughter LaNia, younger granddaughter SaNae, and Samiyah."



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

1. Make sure to have the permission from their parents. If you send in a photo, *Alive!* assumes you have already received that permission.
2. Photos with you in them are better, but if not, that's okay, too.
3. Make sure you list the names of your grandkids.
4. Tell us, in a sentence or two, a little bit about them -

their school, their accomplishments, what they love to do, how proud you are of them, etc.

5. Digital photos are best! Send them to: talkback@city-employeesclub.com

Send Prints To:

Grandkids
City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 120 W. 2nd St.,
Los Angeles, CA 90012 (800) 464-0452

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

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 LAFUCU. 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

DWP Retirement Plan Office (213) 367-1722

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
Ken Spiker: 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





2013 Club Excellence Award Recipient



By Hal Danowitz, Secretary, RLACEI

Echoes of the Past in Nuremberg

Hal and Evelyn take an anniversary cruise down the Danube.

PART 4



We are off again! Our most recent trip included a visit to Berlin, a cruise on the Danube (from Budapest to Prague) and a stop on the way home in Paris.

Last month we visited Salzburg as part of our seven-day Danube River cruise on the *MS AmaCerto*, before spending three days in Prague and six days in Paris and then coming home.

In the morning (Nov. 2, 2013) we sailed on the Danube until we reached Regensburg, Germany, around 1 p.m. We anticipated the Jewish Heritage walking tour at 2 p.m. It was raining, and we hoped it would stop before our tour. Before the tour we had a disembarkation briefing.

They had a special Germany brunch, a *frühscoppen*, at 11:15 a.m. in the lounge; by the time I was ready to eat, it had disappeared. We did eat lunch in the dining room. The weather was still overcast, but the rain had stopped for the time being.

At 2 p.m. we left the boat for our walking tour of Regensburg. In the smaller cities we docked very close to the town center. There were three groups: active, regular and slow. We opted for regular, and there were just too many people for the one guide. We had doubled the normal amount (20) of people. Still the rain held off and we began our walk along the river toward the town. Regensburg dates from the 10th century, and we saw a dig dating back to then with stone foundations. The old stone bridge was one of the first permanent bridges across the Danube. During World War II this area was not bombed, so we saw structures dating back 600 and 700 years. Our ending point was St. Peter's Cathedral, which was built in the gothic style.



The Palace of Justice, where the Nuremberg War Crime trials were held.

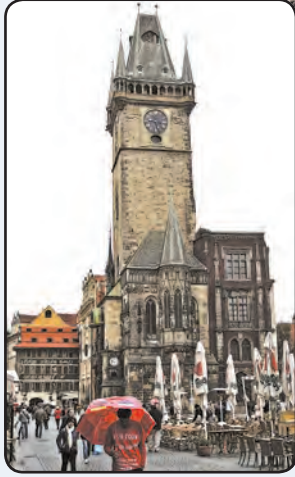
After some shopping, we walked back to the stone bridge for a better look and found a local delicacy, small grilled sausages on a bun. They were cooked in a building that has been doing it for 900 years. We got back to the boat just as it started to sprinkle.

That night was the Captain's Farewell party before dinner. Everyone dressed up a little. Most of the time, dress was very casual, but that night I put on a sport jacket, and Evelyn wore a dress and boots.

The food on the boat had been good – not the best we have had, but overall it was fine. You don't have the food options that you have on a large cruise ship. At dinner we had a choice of two appetizers, including a salad, two soups, and three entrees: fish, meat or veggie; and a couple of desserts to choose from. A few standards were always on the



Evelyn at the Charles Bridge, which crosses the Vltava River in Prague.



The clock tower in Prague.

menu, like a minute steak burger and fries or a Caesar salad. There was also a large selection of cheeses.

Breakfast was a buffet – very well done, with lots of choices. We could get eggs to order and various omelets. The breads were excellent, all made on board.

Lunch was set as a buffet, but we could order off a menu like dinner. With both lunch and dinner, wine and beer were served. So far, the German, Hungarian and Austrian wines were good but not memorable.

The next morning (Nov. 3) we left the Danube River and entered the Main Danube Canal, which links the North Sea to the Black Sea. The canal crosses the Continental divide. That afternoon we docked in Nuremberg, where we had a World War II tour. We stayed overnight in Nuremberg and left the boat the next morning for our drive to Prague.

We settled our on-board account, including tips for the staff. It was recommended that we give €12 per person per day for the boat's staff and €3 per day per person for the cruise manager.

After breakfast we decided to start packing. Our luggage needed to be outside our cabin by 6:45 a.m. the next morning. We would put two bags out before we went to bed and then bring our carry-on when we checked our luggage before it was loaded in the bus.

As we traveled on the canal, we went through a number of locks. The boat was about as wide as the lock, and it was a tight squeeze. Except for the first lock outside of Budapest, the lock could accommodate only one boat at a time. We used the cruising time to play canasta with Max and Linda.

We left the boat for our World War II tour at 2:30 p.m. Our first stop was the "fair grounds," where the National Socialist (Nazi) party held its rallies starting in 1933. The reviewing stand and the seating areas are well preserved, but the City of Nuremberg was trying to decide if it wanted to maintain the area or let nature take its course. That was the beginning of the Nazis, the youth groups, military groups and all the propaganda. Tear



The reviewing stand in the "fair grounds" where the Nazi rallies were held in Nuremberg.

it all down and you risk that people will forget. Refurbish it and you risk glorifying it. I say: refurbish it and at least we never forget.

Next we stopped at the Palace of Justice and Courtroom 600, where the Nuremberg War Crime trials were held. The courtroom seemed smaller than what I have seen in pictures, but it was very eerie. Our last stop was the old town square, and Evelyn was able to buy a Starbucks mug from Nuremberg. We got back to the boat around 6 p.m. and had our last dinner.

The next day would be an early day as we were to leave for Prague at 8:30 a.m.

We got up at 6 a.m. (Nov. 4) and were able to get all the bags outside our door on time. After breakfast we waited in the lounge until our bus was called. We left the boat at 8:15 a.m. We stopped for lunch in Carlsbad (the spa town) and were set to arrive in Prague around 5 p.m.

It was raining and the temperature was about 50. It was rush hour traffic, so we moved slowly. When you travel in the rain at rush hour it doesn't matter what part of the world you are in. It stinks!

After about two hours we crossed the border of the Czech Republic and made a rest stop. Another half-hour, and we got to Karlovy Vary (Carlsbad). This part of the Czech Republic is known as the Sudanicland. Hitler was given this as part of the Munich Pact, which was to bring "peace in our time." And then the world had World War II.



Hal in the Jewish cemetery.

Karlovy Vary was named after Charles IV, who founded the city in 1370. It is famous for its hot springs, beautiful hotels and every Beverly Drive shop you can think of. Tourists go there for the mineral baths and "cures." We passed on testing the mineral water and didn't have time for a soak. This area with its location and the price of real estate reminded me of Vale or Aspen, though only a summer resort. No skiing here.

Our guide suggested a good restaurant, which had great potato pancakes. We also had the goulash, which was good. We had some time to walk around, and then we took the city bus to the parking lot where the tour buses parked. It was another two and a half hours to Prague.

We arrived at the Prague Hilton Old Town around 5 p.m. We quickly got our room key. The room was very nice, with no smoking and a king size bed, but no free Internet (only in the lobby). The bags arrived in about a half-hour, and we unpacked. I had lost all control on what Evelyn was packing. We had to stay under 50 pounds per bag until we got to Paris. Not that she bought much.

There was an orientation walk at 6:45 p.m. The walk was okay, but I could have done the same with a map. We got some good restaurant recommendations. We were in a

hotel that says it's in old town, but was really in "new town" about a 10-minute walk to the old town square.

We had dinner at Hybernia, a pub. It had a lot of young people, and lots of sausages and beer. I had pork cracklings, mushroom cracklings, onions, mustard and lard, which you spread on rye bread. I used everything but the lard, though I did taste it. And again the service was very leisurely (frankly slow, and you have to beg for a check).

The next day (Nov. 5), the skies were clear, and it looked like it would be cool but dry for the next couple of days.

That morning we took our Jewish heritage tour, which lasted all morning. That afternoon we would be on our own in the old town.



The Regensburg dig.

We started our tour by going to the old town square to see the astronomical clock tower. It had two faces that tell time, day, month and phase of the moon, and moveable figures that came out on the hour. We then started our Jewish tour at the Maisel Synagogue, built by the richest man in Prague. We then visited the Pinkas Synagogue, which houses the Jewish Museum that has a very moving exhibit of children's art from concentration camps. We walked through the Old Jewish Cemetery. The Old-New Synagogue is the oldest continuing operating synagogue in the world.

Our last stop was the Spanish Synagogue, which has a great display on the history of the Jews during World War II. Four of the five synagogues were not in use as synagogues; only the Old-New Synagogue offered orthodox services three times a week. Of all the tours we had, this was the best both for content and the quality of the guide.

After that, our guide walked us to the Charles Bridge, which divides Prague in half.

It was lunchtime, and the first restaurant at which we stopped wouldn't just let us order soup, so we found another one that would. We then found a Starbucks to get a mug and then watched the big clock strike 3 p.m. It wasn't that impressive. We walked to the open market place (it wasn't that impressive, either) and then back to the hotel.

We had a reservation at the Imperial Cafe in the Imperial Hotel that night for dinner.

Dinner was great, both the food and service. The four of us ate for less than \$120.

The next day would be an emotional day with a tour of Theresienstadt Nazi concentration camp. More next month.



Evelyn in Karlovy Vary (Carlsbad).



Hal on the bridge in Regensburg.

RETIREES:

Enjoy These Great Member Benefits



City Employees Club of Los Angeles

Celebrating the Lives of City Employees

Full Club Membership, including:

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

For Retired Club Members

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

The *Alive!* Newspaper

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

For more information, contact the Club:



Tiffany Sy
Club Member Services Counselor, In-house
(800) 464-0452, Ext. 202
 TSy@cityemployeesclub.com
 www.cityemployeesclub.com



LACERS

*Tara Miller, MS RD/N (Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist)
 LACERS Well Program Coordinator*



Love Your Heart!

**February is American Heart Month.
 So let's show our hearts a little love!**

In 2009, I served as the media spokesperson for the New York State Dietetic Association in bustling New York City, which required attending galas, grand openings and cocktail parties for organizations with a health-related cause to promote. Tough job, right? But someone had to do it! So when I was asked to attend the annual Red Dress Fashion Show, along with the likes of Tim Gunn from *Project Runway* and supermodel Heidi Klum, I politely agreed (and was internally thrilled).

This star-studded affair was, as expected, spectacular, but more importantly, it was an influential part of the Heart Truth movement, sponsored by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI). Its mission: to raise awareness about heart disease and its risk factors among women. Glamour aside, three things impressed me the most that day: Tim Gunn and Heidi Klum are so much more gracious in person than I could have imagined; everyone looks fabulous in red; and alleviating heart disease will forever be my passion.

So, in the spirit of raising awareness (and an occasional glass of red wine), I invite you all – men and women alike – to celebrate February, for the love of your heart and all that it does. Join me, the American Heart Association (AHA), the

NHLBI, and heart disease survivors everywhere in spreading the word: Heart disease is preventable. You can help.

To kick things off, Friday, Feb. 6, is the AHA's National Wear Red Day. Here are some things to consider as you don your favorite red dress, red shirt, red tie, red whatever!

G-o R-e-d!

G: Get your numbers. This includes total cholesterol, HDL, LDL, blood pressure, blood glucose and if you have diabetes, your hemoglobin A1C.

O: Own your lifestyle. If you smoke, quit. Maintain a healthy weight. Get moving. Enjoy a healthy diet.

R: Realize your risk. Heart disease is not a "man's disease," and menopause can put women at higher risk.

E: Educate your family. Teach them about their family history and learn together to recognize the signs of a heart attack and stroke. Prevention and early treatment save lives!

D: Don't be silent. Talk to your friends and loved ones about heart disease. And don't suffer in silence. Women often confuse symptoms of a heart attack or

stroke with stress. Talk to your doctor. Get the facts.

Next, LACERS Members can join us for our February workshop "Ingredients for a Healthy Heart." Held in two regions, the Highland Park Senior Center near Pasadena and the Cabrillo Beach Bath House in San Pedro, this hands-on cooking demo will provide tips on incorporating healthy cooking techniques for meals you and your family will love. Registration is required.

Please check out our LACERS *Well* Website for details and registration. Or call the Member Service Center at (800) 779-

8328. LACERS Retired Members or their surviving spouses/ domestic partners plus one guest may register to attend the workshop.

For up-to-date event details and more on heart health, log on to the LACERS *Well* Website at www.lacers.org/lacerswell, the American Heart Association's Go RED campaign at www.goredforwomen.org, and the NHLBI's the Heart Truth at www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/hearttruth/.



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
Ake, Thomas	-	DWP	-	Katz, Alisa B.	Council Aide VII	City Council	17	Sohk, Jerry	Wstr. Trea. Ope. III	Public Works	35
Allison, Cole	-	DWP	-	Langhorn, Gregory	-	DWP	-	Vardel, Ric Randall	Sh. Spv. Wstr. Tmt. II	Public Works	20
Andrews, Shelia D.	Crossing Guard	Transportation	15	McClure, Kathleen	Clerk Typist	Library	14	Vasquez, Judd	-	DWP	-
Bizzell, Anita C.	Planning Assistant	Planning	28	McDaniel, James	-	DWP	-	Vega, Elvia N.	Crossing Guard	Transportation	6
Brown, Clifford H.	Cust. Supervisor	General Services	25	Meighan, Lea	Man. Assistant	LAPD	15	Waggoner, Thelaine	Crossing Guard	Transportation	13
Chuang, K.C.	Improv. Asr. Supv. II	Public Works	28	Miller, Lisa A.	Comm. Info Rep III	ITA	31	Watson, Pamela D.	Sr. Clerk Typist	LAPD	26
Cruz, Joseph E.	Messenger Clerk	Library	10	Mitchell, Gwen. A.	Clerk Typist	LAPD	33	Wells, Tony C.	Tra. Pnt. Sign Post III	Harbor	24
Ford, Leonard	-	DWP	-	O'Hare, Judith H.	Sr. Clerk Typist	Building & Safety	24	Yaroslavsky, Zev	Councilmember	City Council	19
Galbraith, Jane	-	DWP	-	Quintana, Michele	Exec. Admin. As. III	Airports	18	Yokota, Masao	Tax Com. Officer III	Finance	13
Garcia, Maria	-	DWP	-	Robb, John	-	DWP	-				
Houang, Phan T.	Accounting Clerk II	General Services	33	Smith, Robert B.	Sr. Com. Engineer	ITA	37				

The Best Years

Ask the Dietician

Do you have a question for Tara, the LACERS Registered Dietician/Nurse? Write to her: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com



Tara Miller, MS RD/N (Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist) LACERS Well Program Coordinator

"Which foods are heart-healthy?"

– J. Freeman, LACERS Retired Member, Inglewood

Nutrient profiling is a helpful tool when seeking out heart-healthy foods. Meal or snack items that contain an abundance of healthy fats (unsaturated and monounsaturated, omega-3s), whole grain fiber, and antioxidants are always a good choice, assuming they are in a fairly natural and not over-processed form, since this will add sodium (salt) to the mix. These foods serve up "amore" to your heart by promoting a reduction of total and "bad" cholesterol (LDL) while promoting mean, cleaning-machine good cholesterol (HDL).

Other benefits include anti-inflammatory and blood-pressure lowering properties, both of which are especially important for diabetes control.

Here is my top 10 list of foods based upon their nutrient profile to enjoy on a heart-healthy diet:

Healthy-fat containing: Salmon, tuna, nuts (especially almonds and walnuts), and *natural* peanut butter (you may have to stir it, but it counts as exercise).

Antioxidant containing: Berries, fresh or

frozen (especially blueberries), colorful vegetables (sorry, iceberg lettuce: you don't make the cut) and yes, red wine (just one glass, please).

Fiber-containing: Ground flaxseed, whole grain rice, and slow-cooked oatmeal (just like Mom used to make, unless she loaded it with butter and sugar. Don't do that.)

Content in this article is provided for your information only and should not be construed as medical advice or instruction. Readers should consult appropriate health professionals on all matters relating to their health and well being.

RETIREES

AROUND THE WORLD



1

Nova Scotia

Here are **Lori Kwiatkowski, LAFD, Retired**, and her mother, **Hotencia Gutierrez**, at Peggy's Cove in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada.



4

South America

Jawahar P. Shah, Retired, Public Works/Sanitation, recently took a cruise to Argentina, Uruguay and Chile.



"Puerto Varas is a city in Southern Chile. The city is known for its German traditions, its natural environment, and its popularity as a tourist destination, with a scenic location close to mountains, lakes and national parks."

"Our cruise ship at Montevideo, Uruguay."



2

Bahamas



"I'm retired in Florida. I just visited the Bahamas on the Carnival cruise ship *Fascination*. The weather was great, and it was a very enjoyable trip."

– **Thomas Vercher, Graphic Designer, Library, Retired**



3

Mexico

Here's **Leticia Yapana, DWP, Retired**, on a Mexican Riviera cruise. Mazatlan: In front of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception.



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



"Glacier Alley – Beagle Channel: We sailed up the Chilean fjords, along the Beagle Channel from Cape Horn in the south, into "glacier alley" beneath the towering grey and barren mountains in one of the most remote, lonely, wild-but-beautiful parts of the world. With almost 2,000 k.m. of scattered islands, fjords, snow- and glacier-capped mountains, lakes, forests and thermal springs, the Chilean fjords between Patagonia's Puerto Montt and Punta Arenas, are comparable in size to the fjord coastline of Norway."



"Iguazu Falls, Argentina."

WIN

\$50 Target Gift Card

*Deadline
For submission:*
March 10, 2015

It's a Coloring Contest!



GROWN-UPS, GET YOUR CRAYONS OUT!

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

for Adults!

PLEASE COMPLETE:

Name: _____
Job title and department with the City: _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE →

Club Membership Number:

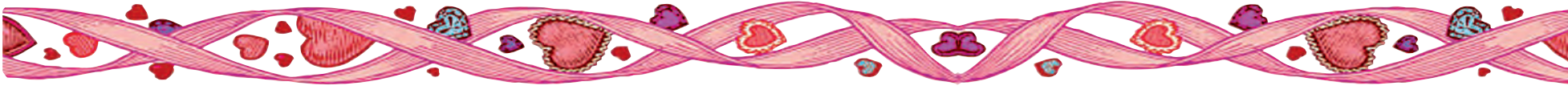
Send Entries to:

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

Rules of the Club's Adult Coloring Contest:

- Winning contestants must be Club members in good standing. Everyone is welcome to submit responses, however. (Responses without Club membership numbers will be accepted but not eligible for the winning prize.)
- All responses must be completed by the person indicated: no ringers (including your children!)
- Winning responses will be determined by official Club personnel. All decisions will be final.
- The contest is all in good fun: The Club cannot be responsible for delays in delivering *Alive!*, or for delays in the transmission of responses.





CLUB *Valentines*

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



"Stacey, will you be my Valentine? Love, Vic."
– Victor Huerta, DWP



"My love, you're the best thing that could have ever happened to me. I love you!"

"Will you marry me?"

– Carlos Romo, Public Works/Sanitation



"Happy Valentine's Day to the best mom ever! We love you. Killa and Zena."
– For Jacqui Dreben, LAPD



"Happy Valentine's Day to my Georgia Peach, Joyce. I love you very much!"
– Melvin Hunter



"Brenna and Emily, you two will always be the center of our universe. We will always love you girls."
Love always,
Doug and Steve



"Isabella Sweetheart, wow, how you've grown! Happy Pre-Valentine's Day! Love always, Papa."
– Rodney Bernaldo, Public Works/Sanitation



"You have been my world, my light and my sunshine. My heart beats for you double when we hug. Happy Valentine's Day to Mommy's princess. Love you."
– Kinshasa Davis Traffic Officer II, Transportation



"Happy Valentine's Day to my husband, Nelson. You're so supportive and loving as a husband, so warm and caring as a father - and every day, I realize just how lucky I am to be sharing life with you. Happy 44 years of marriage, my Valentine!"
– Leticia Yapana, Retired, DWP

"There are no words that can express the love I feel for you guys. Happy Valentine's Day. Love you."
– Nancy Alvarez, Rec and Parks



"Nothing better than my favorite person in one of my favorite cities. I love you!"
– Bob Hill, DWP, for his wife, Lindsay



"I have loved you for 25 years, and I will love you for a thousand more ..."
– Cheryl Perez, for Hector Perez, Airports



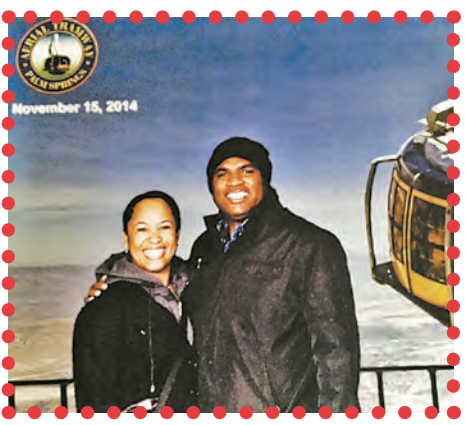
"I'm so happy to have married the love of my life, and I can't wait for our 'little one' to arrive soon! Kisses and hugs and Happy Valentine's Day to my hubby!"
– Kortley Norris, Rec and Parks

Together Forever





"Thank you for being my soul mate, wife, friend and mother of our two kids, Jennifer and James. You're all of me. Love you! Les XOXOXO."
- Les Peacock, DWP



"Dear my Dwayne, to love deeply like I do you gives me strength. To be loved by you gives me courage to go all the way to the top of the highest mountain. Happy Valentine's Day to the man I love. Love you for life."
- Chermaine Fontenette, Public Works/Sanitation



"Babe, after 27 years, you are still my one and only Valentine! I love you!"
- Elizabeth Torres



"You always keep me smiling. Thank you for all the love and support. Love always, Marco."
- Marco Hernandez Transportation



"Much love to my sweetheart, thank you for all of the wonderful times, happy memories and your kindness towards others! Love, me and all of our fur babies!"
- Jean Sarfaty, LAPD, for her husband, Ron



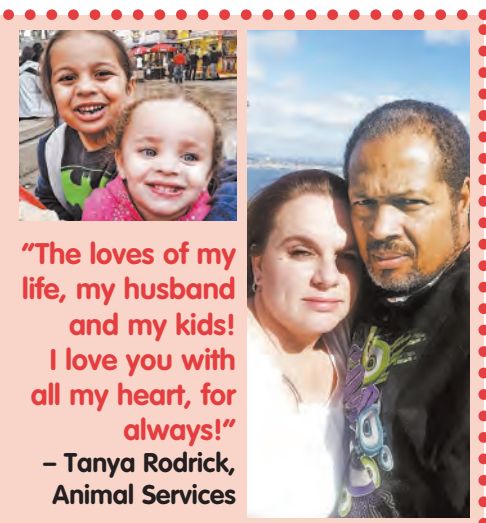
"My very first Valentine is my Daddy. I love you!"
- Sabrina



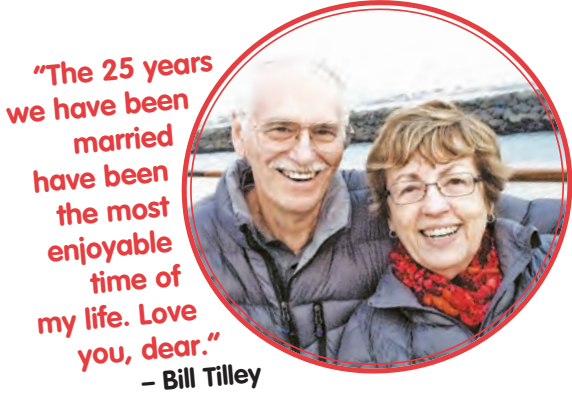
"My true love, I love you more than yesterday and even more tomorrow. Our love is getting better every day!"
- Kimberlee Alas, LAPD, for her husband, Luis



"The luv's of my life: love u 2 the moon n back!"
- Julie Briones, City Attorney's Office



"The loves of my life, my husband and my kids! I love you with all my heart, for always!"
- Tanya Rodrick, Animal Services



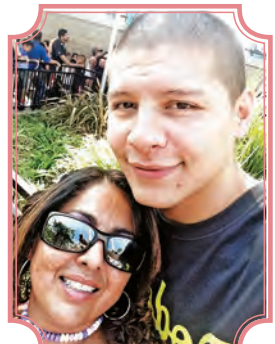
"The 25 years we have been married have been the most enjoyable time of my life. Love you, dear."
- Bill Tilley



"Grandma Beatrice Estrada in love with her daughters, Debbie Moreno, LAFD, and Dyana Estrada and our baby girls Mia, Rebeca and Renay! We are in love!"
- Debbie Moreno, LAFD



"Happy Valentine's Day, Natalie, Jorge Jr., Caesar and Alejandria Miranda. I love you."
- George Miranda



"Second chance for love. Thanks, David, for making me happy. Love you, Happy Valentine's Day."
- Patricia Ewing



"Happy Valentine's Day to Katy Day, my sister who got engaged Nov. 24."
- Anna (Day) Burton, Emergency Management



"Be my Valentine, sweetheart! I love you, hunny!"
- Rudy Tolentino, Public Works/Sanitation



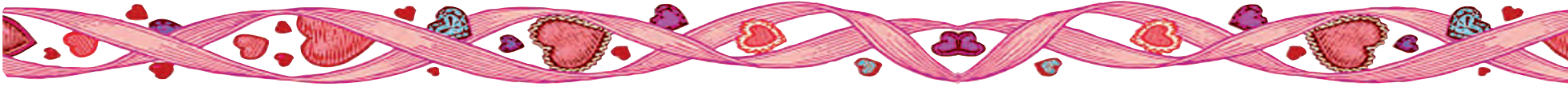
"Happy Valentine's Day to my parents, celebrating 52 years of marriage with a new engagement ring after the original was lost while on vacation."
- Anna (Day) Burton, Emergency Management



"Our first Valentine's together as husband and wife. You truly are my best friend for life. I love you with all my heart."
- Maria Gambino, LAPD



"Happy Valentine's Day to the love of my life. From your Pooh Pooh."
- Michael Patterson



"After 42 years, still crazy about you. Happy Valentine's Day, Elsie."
- Jurica Ivcevic, Harbor



"Have I told you lately that every day is 'Love Andy More and More Day?'"
- PSR Ian Marabe, LAPD/Communications, to Capt. Andy Neiman, LAPD/Media Relations



"I'm the luckiest girl in the world, and it's all because of you. Today, you're my Valentine."
- Maasa Umezawa, for Antonio Cordoba



"Aishiteru, Baby, and Happy Valentine's Day! Now get out of the way ... you're blocking the shot of the motorcycle!"
- C.C., for Saho Takiguchi



"Happy Valentine's Day!"
- Josie Williams, for Al Williams, General Services



"To the love of my life: Thanks for being my best friend and partner for the past 18 years. Will you be my Valentine?"
- Claudia Montes, LAPD, for her husband, Everado Montes, Airport Police



"23 years and counting ... through ups and downs, with you is where I wanna be! Looking forward to 23 more! Love you, Bobby!"
- L'keva Harris, LAPD, for Bobby Harris, DWP



"Happy Valentine's Day and all my love to my wonderful weethwart, Maggie!"
- Kevin Chatman, DWP



"Our love story began 30 years ago, and here we are today. Our God-given love grows stronger as the years go by."
- Stephen and Onesha Steward, Building and Safetys



"Be my Valentine! Love you, Boo!"
- Adrian Torres, LAPD



"Jerry, be my Valentine for 30 more years! I love you."
- Adriana Lopez, DWP

"I love Nilana, Montry, Isaiah, Shira, Jeremiah and nieces Kianna, Cheyenne and Sequoia, too.



I have four children, and they each bring such excitement to my life! My two girls and two boys have broadened my life and exposed me to different worlds - and I have enjoyed it all."
- Yolana Young, LAPD



"Happy Valentine's Day, Ramona!"
- Vaughn Dorsey, Transportation



"Para Alicia, mi esposa, y Gimel, mi hija. Feliz dia de San Valentin. Las quiero mucho."
- Mario Saborio, Harbo



"Randy, you are the best father to our kids and a wonderful husband. You stop at nothing to be there for us. Happy Valentine's Day. I love you more."
- Michelle Lowry, General Services



"Lovers do not finally meet somewhere...they're in each other all along."
- Rumi

"I love you, Husband. - Your devoted wife, Sharon."
- For Farhad Dormani, DWP



"Together, forever!"
- Norlito Medrano, Building and Safety





"You never fail to amaze me. Every day there is something new that makes me love you even more than yesterday! Be My Valentine. I love you, Boo!"
 - Cecy Gómez, Economic/ Workforce Development



"To my best friend and my rock. You have always been there for me, and I never want to be without you in my life. I love you, baby!"
 - Elena Sousa, for her husband, John Sousa, Airports

CLUB Valentines



"Be my Valentine."
 - Bernabe Contreras for his wife, Margaret. They will be married 40 years in September.



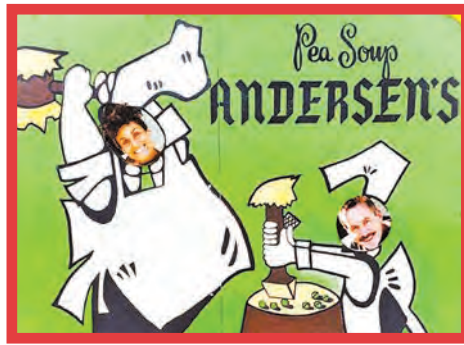
"It's a blessing to call you my husband! Happy Valentine's Day my love! I love you."
 - Maria Reyes, Housing



"Happy Valentine's Day to the love of my life."
 - Gabriel Leivas, DWP



"To my baby, thank you for all the love and laughs! A day at a time. I can't wait to see what the future holds for us."
 - Sarah Bonner, Aide, Office of Councilman Joe Buscaino



"Dean: Lucky me to have a Valentine who's born on Valentine's Day. Looking forward to more adventures. I love you. Christal."
 - Christal Chacon, Animal Services



"To my sweetheart Jypsy, you are the love of my life. You're so far away from me, but soon we will be together."



"Been in love ... 35 years. Happy Valentine's Day!"
 - Michael Tolliver, for his wife, Brenda



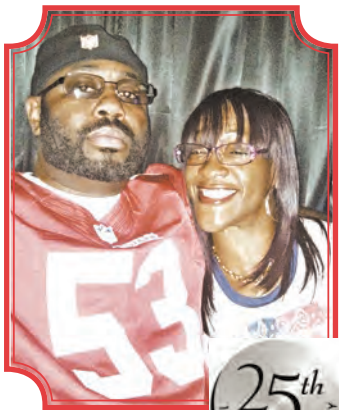
"Happy Valentine's Day to Margo and Lawrence! May you be blessed with many more."
 - For Margo Hamlin, Transportation



"Mahal Na Mahal Kita."
 - Francisco Portillo, Airport



"I love my beautiful daughter, Nilana (and other daughter Shira and sons Isaiah and David and grandson Jeremiah). She/they are so talented and wonderful ... brilliant and emotional! They have all added such joy to my life. I am proud of them and will always love them!"
 - Yolana Young, LAPD



"Happy Valentine's Day to my Teddy Bear."
 - Kacy Evans, Personnel, for Koshawn Holt, Public Works/ Sanitation



"Happy Valentine's Day to Tyce, 3; Leyla, 6; Kiara, 7; and, most of all, to my wonderful wife, Makiko."
 - Eric Yoshida, DWP



"I love my beautiful daughter, Nilana (and other daughter Shira and sons Isaiah and David and grandson Jeremiah). She/they are so talented and wonderful ... brilliant and emotional! They have all added such joy to my life. I am proud of them and will always love them!"
 - Yolana Young, LAPD

"Looking forward to the second of many more Valentine's Days to come!"
 - Sergeant Gary Newton II, LAPD and Abby Loceo

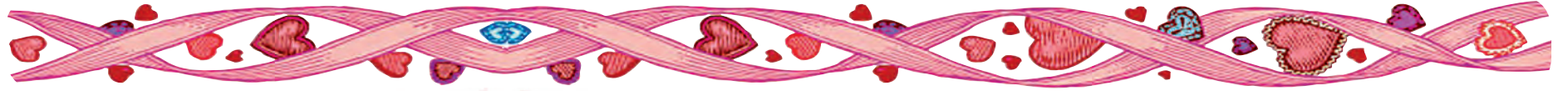


"My love, you make me so happy. Thank you for taking such good care of me and for putting up with my tantrums. I love you. Your le Pet."
 - Gina Gaona, ITA



"Happy first Valentine's Day to my husband, Bishop K. Donnell Smith Sr. Looking forward to the first of many more to come!"
 - Love, your wife, Sonia Easter-Smith."

"I love you with all my heart, you are my life, my world, my valentine ..."
 - "Valentine" Aaron and Stacy Bishop



CLUB Valentines



"Joey, my forever Valentine, you still take my breath away after 26 years! I love you!"
- Annette Edralin, ITA



"To my two little love bugs, Reily and Aidan. From Mom."

- Amira Smith, LAPD



"My Valentine, Sue, and I met while working as Peace Corps volunteers in Arequipa, Peru. We got married 50 years ago, on Jan. 3, 1965, in Arequipa. Sue is the love of my life. Happy Valentine's Day, honey."

- Bob Knox, Retired, Personnel



"One heck of a road trip we're on! All my love, at 70 mph."

- John



"Love you more than ever! Happy Valentine's Day, my love."

- Lupe Durazo, Personnel, and Anthony Garcia, Public Works



"With all my love do I wish you the happiest Valentine's Day."

- Carnell Baker, General Services, for his wife, Tara Baker



"To John and Linda Kauffman: Happy Valentine's Day to the best parents a girl could ask for! They are the greatest example of true love and everlasting friendship. 39 years of marriage and going strong!"

- Noelle Kauffman, Club Member Services Coordinator



"To Mom, my original Valentine: Thank you for making me who I am!"

- John



"To Hannah and Kelley: the two best Valentines a man could ask for."

- John



"My beautiful babies, you bring a smile to my face and joy to my heart!"

- Suzy Vasquez, LAPD



"To my best friend and the love of my life, Happy Valentine's Day. I love you."

- Toya Jones



"Dad, it's been 34 years and still counting!"

- Erlina Senatin-Partosa, DWP



"To my ever-dearest wife, Deanna, after 24 years of marriage, my love for you remains forevermore! My heart continues to beat because of you. Happy Valentine's Day."

- Ronn Encarnacion, General Services



"Khristina, I love you today and every day! It's almost river time. Happy Valentine's Day. Tim."

- Tim Keleshian, Public Works/Street Services



"Thank you for loving me unconditionally. I love you. Gabby."

- Gabriela Zarate, Housing



"With my girl."

- Ismail Nanabawa, Airports



"Ruben and Elizabeth Garcia plus margaritas in Palm Springs = Love."

- Ruben Garcia, Transportation



"Cris, I just want you to know that I'm so lucky to have you as my husband for 25 years and grateful for all the things that you do for our family. Happy Valentine's Day."

- Marlene, Controller's Office



"I love you for those thousands of reasons you gave me to smile in this world. Happy Valentine's Day, my Vartan! 143!"

- Yestera Kachanyan, Finance





Mötley Crüe
1983 – Gary Leonard Collection

Vince Neil, Tommy Lee, Nikki Sixx, Mick Mars. Donning war paint and ready to conquer the world in this previously unpublished portrait, Mötley Crüe are among the first wave of 1980s Heavy Metal bands on the Sunset Strip, and the first to achieve major national success.

Library

Story and images courtesy Library

Photos in Tune With the '80s

Library exhibits photos of LA music scene in the 1980s.

Photographs of Los Angeles-based bands including Mötley Crue, N.W.A., Black Flag and the Bangles, who made significant contributions to the music of the 1980s, are part of the exhibit, "From Pop to the Pit: The LAPL Photo Collection Celebrates the L.A. Music Scene, 1978-1989," on display through June 28 at Central Library's History and Genealogy Dept., 630 W. Fifth St., downtown.

Related events include a series of lectures by local photographers featured in the exhibit, and a companion catalog with additional photos will be available.

The exhibit, reception and lectures are free and open to the public.

Drawing largely from the Library's image archive from the *Herald Examiner* newspaper, the exhibit showcases the wide variety of musical genres that permeated the 1980s local scene ranging from small clubs to large arenas.

"Most of these photographs haven't seen the light of day since they originally ran in the paper, so it's exciting to finally see them blown up, framed and displayed for everyone to appreciate," said Wendy Horowitz, exhibit curator

and Librarian, LAPL Photo Collection.

"This is subject matter and a time period we don't often explore with the photos," said Christina Rice, Sr, Librarian, LAPL Photo Collection. "We've had a great time rediscovering these bands we grew up listening to, and who doesn't love a good 'Shout at the Devil' photo of Mötley Crue?"

In conjunction with the exhibit, the Library will present a series of free lectures at the Central Library by local photographers who captured the L.A. music scene during its heyday and whose work is featured in the exhibit, including:

Feb 17: Gary Leonard; **April 18:** Ed Colver; **June 13:** Neil Zlozower in conversation with Jeff Schwartz. All programs will be held on **Saturdays at 2 p.m.** in Central Library's Mark Taper Auditorium. Seating is on a first come, first served basis.

A companion catalog that expands on the "From Pop to the Pit" exhibit will be published by Photo Friends, a nonprofit organization that supports the LAPL Photo Collection. The catalog will include many photos from the collection that were not included in the exhibit. The catalog will be available for purchase at the Library Store in the Central Library.



Black Flag
1984 – Rob Brown/
Herald Examiner Collection

Left: Greg Ginn, founding member, guitarist and songwriter, and recent addition Henry Rollins, their fourth vocalist. Originating from Hermosa Beach, Black Flag found fame as one of the first Southern California hardcore punk bands, with shows attracting masses of fans as well as frequent raids from the LAPD.



The Bangles

1983 – Michael Edwards/*Herald Examiner* Collection
Vicki Peterson, Annette Zilinskas, Susanna Hoffs and Debbi Peterson. Influenced by L.A. '60s legends the Byrds and the Buffalo Springfield, the Bangles set themselves apart from other all-female bands of the era. Their blend of '60s-influenced folk rock and melodic vocal harmonies gained them major commercial and critical success with songs "Walk Like an Egyptian" and "Manic Monday."



Eazy-E
1989 – Steve Grayson/
Herald Examiner Collection

Born Eric Wright, he is also known as the Godfather of "Gangsta Rap," performing both as a solo artist and with L.A. rappers Ice Cube and Dr. Dre in the hip hop group N.W.A. Their highly controversial album *Straight Outta Compton*, released on Eazy-E's label Ruthless Records, reached a remarkable double platinum status, despite a lack of radio airplay.



Rest Insured

BY JEFF GELINEAU
Vice President of United Agencies,
The Club's Auto and Home Insurance Partner
jgelineau@unitedagencies.com

Why Buy Insurance From the Club?

People often ask me why they should buy insurance from United Agencies through the Club.

First, it's important to explain that there are two different kinds of insurance agents. A *direct writer* is an agent who is contractually obligated to write insurance for *one company*. These "captive agents" are the most common kind of agent, and work for companies including State Farm, Allstate, 21st Century, GEICO, etc. They do an excellent job of offering their company's products and services to you, the consumer. Unfortunately, they are limited in that they can offer only the products and services of "their" one company.

Their companies also sell direct to you online. GEICO, 21st Century and eSurance (Allstate) sell hundreds of millions worth of insurance without even talking to a human. United Agencies feels that it is important that you talk to a real person who can ask you a few important questions, and help you purchase the coverage that best fits your family.

The other kind of agents are often referred to as *brokers*, as they represent multiple insurance companies. United Agencies is a broker. The advantage of dealing with a broker is that they can get you quotes from several different insurance companies all at once, and find the one that best fits your family. Brokers can also help you out if you have teenage children in the house, too many tickets on your license, or maybe a house in a "brush area."

Traditionally it is understood that an agent represents the insurance company, and a broker represents the customer. As brokers, we are not obligated to any specific insurance company, and can offer you a unbiased investigation of what company would be best for you.

By calling United Agencies, you should expect to get exceptional service. Our partnership with the City Employees Club is very important to us, and you will receive "VIP Treatment" as a member of

the Club. A real person will answer the phone, and you won't be shuffled off to the voicemail dungeon. It is important to us to keep our relationship with the Club, and to do so we have to keep every Club Member happy. When you call us, you should expect results!

If you are currently buying your policy from another broker, and you like the insurance company that you are buying from, you can still switch to United Agencies and experience the exceptional service that other Club Members are receiving. You keep the same great policy you currently have and improve your level of service.

Buying your insurance from a broker is especially beneficial to you when you spend a few minutes talking to our agents on the phone or in person. We have more than 50 years of experience to draw on, and we pride ourselves in doing an excellent job of educating our customers in how to make the best decisions. We will try to "think outside the box" and offer helpful suggestions on ways to reduce your insurance costs and increase the protection for you and your family.

United Agencies represents:

- Mercury
- Safeco
- Fireman's Fund
- Hartford
- Chubb
- AIG
- Civil Service Employee
- Progressive
- Encompass
- And many others.

With so many companies to choose from, we are able to give you the best coverage at the best price available. Give us a call, and we'll prove it!

Feel free to contact me or any of our agents if you would like a quote on any of your insurance policies today!

Be safe and have fun!

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, and I will try to answer your question in one of our monthly columns.

About United Agencies

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

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



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LAPD

Photos by Tom Hawkins, Club Photographer, and courtesy the LAPD

Policing, Unlea



LAPD's Bomb Detection K9 Section has added two new cutting-edge capabilities to thwart terrorism.

If you're a terrorist looking to explode a weapon in a public setting, the LAPD's hard working detective dogs are coming for you – in a couple of impressive new ways.

Over the last 18 months, the Department's bomb detection K9 section – already an effective deterrent – has developed two new capabilities to help prevent the kind of terrorism act that devastated Boston a few years ago. The LAPD is thought to be the only municipal force in the country with these capabilities at this time, although the techniques are spreading.

Detection in Motion

The first technique is called person-borne detection. Its promise – to track suspects with explosives while they are in motion. The dog, on leash with a handler, can track odor vapors in the wake of a suspect, and follow that odor as it works its way through a crowd. In this technique, the dog

remains on leash for the safety of the dog, the officer and the public at large.

Tracking suspects while in motion, in the middle of big crowds (rather than sweeping an open area for fixed objects in advance of a big event – is a new and effective tool for the K9 squad.

Person-borne detective dogs can scan up to 200 people a minute sniffing for explosive residues.

Unleashed

The second capability, unleashing the K9 detection dogs from their handler, is used in specific situations to clear areas without the public. By unleashing its K9s, the Department can sweep potential hot areas much more rapidly and safely.

Later in this section, you can see and read about how these new techniques work. ■

The Bomb Detection K9 Section assigned to the new techniques, from left: Officer Ed Dominguez with Duchess; Officer Vanessa Keortge with Riddick; Officer Tom DeLuccia with Nellie; and Sgt. Mitch Lambdin.



Alive! Feature

THE ALIVE! INTERVIEW

A Changing World



The *Alive!* interview, clockwise from left: Sgt. Mitch Lambdin; Club CEO John Hawkins; and Officers Tom DeLuccia, Ed Dominguez and Vanessa Keortge. All three Officers are Club Members.

On Jan. 8, Club CEO John Hawkins and *Alive!* editor John Burnes interviewed Sgt. II Mitch Lambdin, 26 years of City service; Officer III Tom DeLuccia, 17 years (handler of dog Nellie); Officer Ed Dominguez, 20 years (handler of Duchess); and Officer III Vanessa Keortge, 20 years (handler of Riddick). The interview took place in the LAPD Bomb Squad's facility northeast of downtown.

These are special capabilities that you are developing, but not a special unit.

OFCR. VANESSA KEORTGE: Correct, the department is just adding capabilities.

Detection on the Move

So that we can be clear, there are two different techniques here – the person-borne capability, and the off-lead capability. Can we explain those two?

OFCR. TOM: Sure. First is person-borne.

That's when you are following people for bomb detection, and you have to be able to feel the tension of the leash and have that connection with the animal.

OFCR. TOM: Right.

Person-borne means that a dog on a leash with a police handler is now capable of tracking a moving object – basically a person moving through a crowd, not just a fixed object. That's a new capability.

OFCR. ED: Yes. I think the biggest aspect of this whole program is the crowd aspect. We always were able to go to major events, but now we can actually walk the dogs through crowds. The dogs are searching not only fixed objects, but if anyone is carrying explosives, the dogs will alert on that and follow the person or persons. We are actually checking crowds where before we never were able to do that. It was just strictly fixed objects or a space, but before the crowds got there. Now we don't have to worry. We can check before, during and after the event. The "during" part is the best. It's a new capability.

SGT. MITCH: Look at the Boston Marathon bombing. The areas prior to the marathon were secured. They were swept, and there were no explosives there. They believe that the Tsarnaev brothers, the suspects, left their

backpacks with the explosives and took off. A person-borne canine in that area – like we have now – might have worked the crowd and alerted to the presence of explosive materials.

It seems like motion is a big part of this. That's not something that you really had in your skill set before.

OFCR. TOM: Correct.

That seems like a big deal.

OFCR. TOM: It's a huge deal, and like Sgt. Lambdin said, with the Boston Marathon bombing there is a good indication based on what we all know from canine training that even if there were explosive-detection dogs deployed at that event, which there were, the potential is that those two suspects could have had those backpack bombs on and walked right past those K9s, and those K9s probably would not have alerted because they are not trained to detect odor in transit, and they are also not trained to detect odor on people. So even if the dogs were to get their noses in good proximity to those devices, the likelihood is they probably would not have alerted because that training was not available.

OFCR. ED: They would have probably sensed there is odor there, but they are not trained to follow it.

OFCR. TOM: They wouldn't have known what to do.

OFCR. ED: It's a very hard thing to train a dog for motion sensing. I think the trainers go through 100 dogs, and only one or two make it.

OFCR. TOM: That doesn't necessarily mean the dog won't be a good detection dog. They are phenomenal detection dogs and they go on to do traditional (fixed) detection work. But as far as the person-borne piece – the ability to search people in motion on a leash – it's about a 90 percent failure rate of candidate dogs.

And it appears that they are all Labradors.

OFCR. TOM: For the most part, yes. No one wants a German shepherd coming up and smelling their clothes and their crotch and their backpack when they are walking through a bus terminal. They come very close, about six eight inches away from a person.

SGT. MITCH: People have a comfort level with those dogs. Most people don't even realize they've been searched.

OFCR. TOM: Which is ideal.

OFCR. ED: Another aspect is the officers – we have to be looking at people as they come to us. If you are the suicide bomber, we will probably see it before the dog does because you're going to show those things that you just can't hide. The dog is a huge

LAPD Bomb Detection K9 Section

shed

About the Bomb Detection K9 Section

The Bomb Detection K9 Section is a specialized group of bomb detection canine handlers whose mission is to deter and detect the introduction of explosive devices in transportation systems and the City of Los Angeles.

Its 15 officer/handlers assist the TSA in bomb detection at LAX. In 2012, the Department obtained its first dog outside the jurisdiction of the TSA and began using these new techniques described here. The Department obtained its second and third independent dogs last October, and placed them in service to implement these new techniques. These three dog/handler teams serve anywhere in the City of Los Angeles, and by cooperation anywhere else.

K9s in Force

LAPD's bomb detection dogs are not the only K9s the department employs. Here are the other K9s that keep the City safe (all require specialized training):

- **Patrol dogs** (for crime suspects)
- **Narcotics dogs**
- **Search dogs** (for handguns, knives and nitroglycerin)
- **Cadaver dogs** (for corpses)
- **Missing-person dogs** (bloodhounds)



Riddick carries a video monitoring unit – a camera on top, and a transmitter on the vest.

Sgt. Lambdin, let's start with you. Give us a brief overview of these new programs we're focusing on today. We focused on the LAPD bomb detection dogs at LAX several years ago, but these are different.

SGT. MITCH LAMBIDIN: Right. We call it our City Canine Cadre. We have numerous dogs assigned through the federal TSA program and under our contract with the Los Angeles World Airports and the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security. That's what you focused on before. When we were called to do a bomb detection sweep elsewhere, we'd have to pull them away from the airport.

We had limited TSA dogs to do the person-borne explosive detection. That's a very long process, say for the Academy Awards – they might be at it for three or four hours for the entire event. It would cause a big drain on the LAX operations and our ability to respond at LAX. So the department decided, let's get some additional dogs that are not funded through the TSA. We will take experienced LAPD handlers from the TSA program and reassign them to this new program. We'll purchase dogs for them and get them additional training so that they can do other things.

There are a lot of limitations when you are in the TSA program because most of the dogs are owned by the TSA. We had other needs for them. For what we needed, it doesn't work that well to have a dog on a six-foot leash attached to a human being near a bomb. It's just not the best way to do it. There's technology out there where we can train the dog to search areas at a distance that's much safer for the officer and much more efficient. So we purchased our own dogs through grants, and this way we can send them to different events. They can spend eight or ten hours at the Academy Awards or other community events.

The world just recently had a terrorist incident in France. We don't have to worry about draining airport resources when we go to protect the French Consulate here in Los Angeles. Or if Jewish locations are being targeted somewhere in the world, we can go and harden related "soft targets" here in LA. By soft target, I mean somewhere that's very easy for the public to gain access to and to be around. So we can get out there quickly, and it doesn't disrupt all our other operations. LAX is the biggest target on the West Coast. We can't just pull everybody from the airport and leave the Airport Police there without our assistance. This way we can pull these resources without any difficulty.

There's a financial aspect, too. Every time we would deploy a TSA dog outside the airport, the LAPD had to fund that amount of time back to the airport. So there was a financial reason for this, too.

After the recent incident in Paris, did LAPD dogs help secure the French Consulate here in LA?

OFCR. TOM DELUCCIA: Yes. Myself and Officer Keortge went out yesterday.

With Nellie and Riddick.

OFCR. TOM: Nellie and Riddick.

SGT. MITCH: They were there checking vehicles in the area that were parked as a deterrent. If someone were to try to leave something behind, our officers were there to make sure it was clear.

When was this new unit formed?

SGT. MITCH: We started with just Riddick in 2012. With funding and personnel issues, it took us a while before we got up to our present size.

So this is new for all intents and purposes.

SGT. MITCH: This is brand new. They just graduated from their person-borne explosive detective dog training at the end of November.

OFCR. ED DOMINGUEZ: We got our person-borne detection dogs last October, and we started training with them for ten weeks.

Does your unit have a special name?

OFCR. TOM: No, we are part of the Bomb Detection Canine Unit.



K9s in Action



Off-Leash (Off-Lead): The LAPD has also implemented a technique where Bomb Detection Officers can employ detection K9s off leash in certain limited situations.

Motion Detection in Practice

The LAPD's new person-borne technique uses bomb detection K9s on-leash to track explosive odors in motion. This sequence shows how it works:



In this training exercise, Officer Tom DeLuccia and Nellie are actively monitoring a public space. Nellie tracks the odors of passers-by, as she has done repeatedly during the exercise.



Nellie picks up a possible scent and focuses on a possible source of that scent.

Speedy Sweeps

By taking their dogs off-leash, the LAPD Bomb Detection Section can speed up inspections, and make them safer.



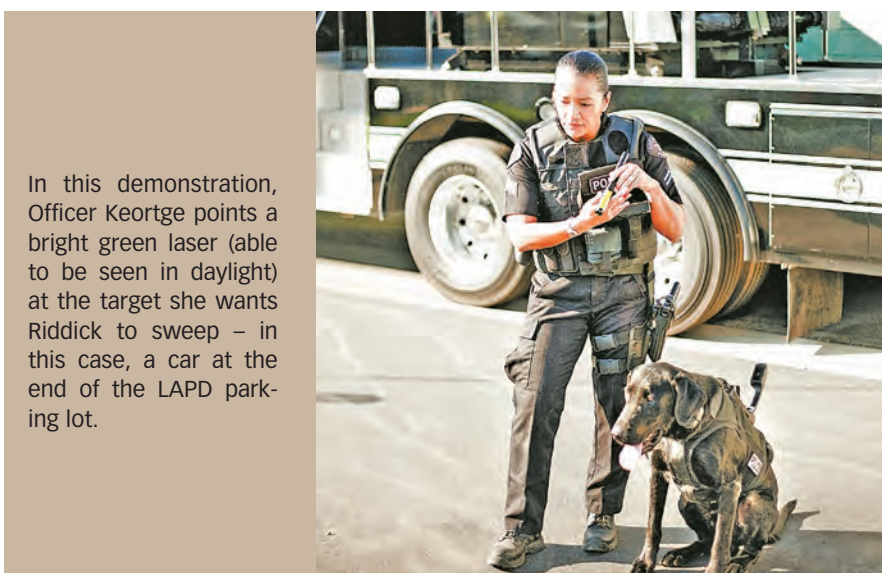
One of the advantages of the bomb detection dogs being off-leash is that they can perform a sweep much more quickly than if they are tethered to their handler. In this demonstration, Officer Tom DeLuccia uses hand signals to direct Nellie to sweep a row of vehicles.



Officer Tom DeLuccia observes as Nellie sweeps an industrial yard off-leash (training exercise).

The Laser Technique

Officer Vanessa Keortge can employ Riddick off-leash by using a laser pointer. This increases the speed of the search and keeps Officer Keortge at a safe distance.



In this demonstration, Officer Keortge points a bright green laser (able to be seen in daylight) at the target she wants Riddick to sweep – in this case, a car at the end of the LAPD parking lot.



Riddick takes off for the target, illuminated by the green laser light. (In this shot, Riddick is actually returning to Officer Keortge.)



Riddick is rewarded for a successful sweep by Officer Tom DeLuccia.

A Reunion With Riddick the Hero

LAPD detection dog Riddick reunites with the former Marine Corps handler whose life he saved.

Photos courtesy Anthony Cooper

When the Afghanistan conflict was drawing down in 2012, the Marine Corps started returning some of its bomb-detection dogs back to K2, the company that trains them in North Carolina.

Riddick, who's now in the hands of the LAPD, came back a hero, having saved the life of his handler, U.S. Marine Sgt. Anthony Cooper, at least twice.

"Riddick and I were working in the personal security detachment for the Battalion Commander and Sgt. Major," Anthony recalls. "We also did regular missions. I had to acclimatize Riddick to 120-degree temperatures.

"In 2012, we ended up finding three IEDs – improvised explosive devices," Anthony continues. "In the first, we got attacked by four suicide bombers. Four days later, in clearing an area, we found a bombed-out white vehicle that had delivered the suicide bombers. That vehicle had already been cleared supposedly, but I sent Riddick over there anyway because I had a weird gut feeling about it. Riddick covered (alerted) on the trunk of that vehicle. We were trained to trust our dog, and I trusted Riddick. Turns out there were 150 pounds of explosives in that vehicle. It had a timer that would have gone off 30 minutes after we found it, and a secondary switch in the ignition." Most of those, if not all, in the area would have been killed if it weren't for Anthony's instincts and Riddick's skills.

"A couple of weeks later, I was driving with my dog to a location, and my vehicle struck a 60-pound IED, which exploded. The vehicle was damaged, but everyone was fine. Five minutes later, another in the vehicle said he needed me to search for secondaries (additional devices). We searched. Not even 25 feet away from us, he found a secondary 60-pounder. If it hadn't been for Riddick, myself and four others wouldn't be here today.

"The third time, at another location, there was a smaller five-pound directional charge with ball bearings aimed toward the normal route that the Afghan National Army drove. Riddick and I found that, and it was disarmed before it could harm anyone."

"We were told we had a chance to adopt the dogs after the drawdown. I mean, that dog saved my life at least twice. I couldn't bear losing him. But by the time I got the paperwork done, it



Marine Sgt. Anthony Cooper and Riddick in Afghanistan.

wasn't quick enough – Vanessa and the LAPD had already picked up my dog."

But that's not the end of the story.

"Riddick and I had already started training together," LAPD Officer Vanessa Keortge recalled. "In September 2013, I got a phone call from our administration building saying, 'Someone's looking for him.' So I called the number, and it was Anthony. And he said, 'Well, that dog saved my life in Afghanistan.'"

Officer Vanessa organized a reunion at the LAPD Academy between Riddick and Anthony, who, after his honorable discharge, now lives in Southern California.

"My heart dropped the first time I saw him again," Anthony remembers. "For the first five minutes or so, it was like he didn't quite recognize me. But as soon as I started playing around with him and giving him orders, it was like you couldn't take him away from me."

"Then they started roughhousing and playing like they were old friends," Officer Vanessa said.

Was she worried about losing Riddick?

"My overall worry was that Anthony was going to want Riddick back," she continued. "But no – Anthony is happy that Riddick is working and still serving the community, and not just idling away in a kennel somewhere."

The friendship continues, as Officer Vanessa has invited Anthony over to her family home for a couple more reunions, and even some informal training sessions.

"I wouldn't trade him for any other dog," Anthony says. "He saved my life. To the Marine Corps, he was just another piece of gear. But to us, it was more of a friendship, just like any other Marine – you watch my back, I'll watch yours. I would rather him remain in service, keeping people safe." ■



Nellie has located the scent – in the backpack of this undercover LAPD officer.



Officer Ed Dominguez releases Duchess off-leash to sweep an office (training exercise).



Riddick alerts at a box containing explosive dust (inert).



Marine Sgt. Anthony Cooper (kneeling) and Riddick in Afghanistan. With them is Navy Hospitalman Jay Kemp.

K9s in Action, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27**Video Monitor**

Another innovation is the use of a video monitor, so that Officer Keortge can monitor what Riddick is seeing. The system has a functional distance of about 30 or 40 feet at this point, but the bomb detection unit is hoping to increase it to about 100 yards.



Riddick is kitted out with a video camera and transmitter.



LEFT:
The video camera lens atop Riddick.

RIGHT:
The video monitor.



Officer Keortge explains the video monitor system to Club CEO John Hawkins.

The *Alive!* Interview, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

aspect of it, but we are a big component of that, too. We have to recognize the different behaviors of people, how they are reacting to the dog, and why they are trying to avoid us in a certain way.

Could this person-borne capability possibly have prevented Boston? Was this developed because of Boston or at least accelerated because of Boston?

OFCR. TOM: Yes, for a couple of reasons. We can now be out there and potentially detect these devices as they are moving with a person. But also for the deterrent factor – if our officers are out deployed with our marked SUVs in uniform with the canines like Sgt. Lambdin mentioned, we are hardening the target. The hope is that we've hardened that target to the point where terrorists are going to want to cancel that operation and move on.

OFCR. ED: The City of Los Angeles has done a great thing with the LAPD getting these dogs and their capabilities; let's be in the forefront of this.

So ideally in a perfect world, how many person-borne dogs should there be in LA?

OFCR. ED: As many as we can get.

Unleashing the K9s

Okay, now let's talk about the other part of this – off-leash. I think you call it off-lead.

SGT. MITCH: Sure. By going off-lead, we can sweep much larger areas. These three dogs can go off-lead and search an entire area in a much quicker way. They can search human beings, too, as they are going through. The TSA canines don't typically do that.

OFCR. VANESSA: The off-lead capabilities, typically, are mission-oriented. That means there is something specific that we're looking to clear that we don't want a handler to go up on. Also sometimes we have used it in houses where there is a lot of clutter and it's hard for the dog on a leash and a handler to get through it. The dog can do it much more easily alone.

It's also used sometimes when it's just quicker to clear an area that needs to be cleared. But it's done in a controlled environment, meaning the public is not walking through and vehicular traffic is not flowing through; that's for the safety of the dog and the handler and the public. Most of our basic clearing is done on-leash because we are clearing something very specific. But if it's mission-oriented, where a car or a garage has to be swept before officers go in and search it, that's when we use the off-lead capabilities.

SGT. MITCH: Another aspect of off-lead capabilities is what we would refer to as a force multiplier. When Patrol gets a bomb threat at a large building, maybe a ten-story office building, and they want that cleared, it takes hours of manpower – not just the people doing the searching but the people who have to secure the perimeter around that. It really affects Patrol operations. It can affect traffic patterns, all kinds of things. It's a mess. Where you get three or five off-lead dogs that can go in there, one per floor, you can clear a ten-story building in a very short period of time, depending on what's inside the building.

OFCR. TOM: We've done that. Not too long ago, Ed and I went to a school for a call that was brought on by Major Crimes. They asked us to come out for a non-specific bomb threat. We went out to the school and we cleared that school before the first student even got there. We showed up at six in the morning, and we cleared the school in about an hour or less.

OFCR. ED: And another great aspect of it is Duchess, Nellie and Riddick can all work together at the same time.

OFCR. TOM: In the same proximity.

OFCR. ED: Working and ignoring each other. They are working in their own specific areas and off-lead, which is tough to do. It's tough to get the dogs to focus on the task at hand and not focus on each other.

SGT. MITCH: In the K9 world, that's significant. When we take most of our standard dogs and do a sweep somewhere, we'll get there at four o'clock in the morning, and it sounds like madness.

OFCR. TOM: That's because they are pack animals; the alpha is antagonizing the others. They all want to socialize.

We can cut the leashes on the dogs and they can all run and sweep, and through hand and arm signals we can keep them in their lanes. They will all do what they are supposed to do. It's amazing.

We had a radio call a couple of years back at an office building in downtown LA. It would have taken Patrol probably four or five hours to hand-search that building and go through every floor, every cabinet,

everything. We ran the dogs, at the time, on-lead and were able to clear the office building in about an hour, or an hour and a half. So that freed up those resources. Without us, radio calls are coming in, crimes are being committed. Police officers can't be out there doing what they have to do because they are sitting there physically searching a location that's taking them a long time.

And it's also dangerous. What if they encounter a device let's say in a laptop, and the officer opens it and it goes off? As canine handlers, we don't physically touch anything when we search. The dog does everything with its nose, and the dog doesn't nudge or push anything, either. Our dogs all give what's called a passive response. That means they sit, they stare and they focus on the object or where they believe the odor is coming from. They don't scratch it. They don't paw at it. They don't nudge it.

SGT. MITCH: Traditionally the handler would have to take them from object to object. When an off-lead dog is released in the room, it just scans around. It might do that for half a second in one spot, and we already know whether there is something there or not.

OFCR. TOM: I might not even have to come in the room. I could direct that dog from the threshold, cast the dog in, let the dog do what it has to do, and then it will alert.

That's impressive.

OFCR. TOM: Yes.

Cutting-Edge

This is a fairly new technology in the country, correct? It's on the cutting edge of using K9s in anti-terrorism situations, is that true?

OFCR. ED: Absolutely.

SGT. MITCH: It truly is, and we are hoping to expand it so that Incident Commanders from the Police Department throughout the City, when they have their different events, can call us. We can just add that little extra layer of security that is currently not there.

OFCR. ED: I don't think a lot of agencies right now in the entire country are running this. It's brand new. It's just coming out to the forefront now.

OFCR. TOM: As far as we know, the Maryland State Police and Johns Hopkins University have adopted it. But we are the only municipal police department in the United States that has this.

Have any other departments come here looking for your advice?

SGT. MITCH: We get that all the time, actually.

OFCR. ED: We have been working closely with the other K9 units in the area. We were out at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. The LA County Sheriff's Dept. has a lot of area to cover, and, knowing that, we can assist and vice-versa with them. And Amtrak, too. We are creating those relationships now where before we weren't able to because we were restricted.

OFCR. TOM: The Metro lines. I talked to the terrorism liaison officer yesterday from Central Division, and I asked him if he had any areas he wanted us to work on. He said, "I'd really like you guys to sweep my train stations," even though the Sheriff covers that through the MTA contract. A sergeant from Central now can deploy us or ask us for our help, and we can come down there and help out with that.

A Changing World

Who developed these techniques?

SGT. MITCH: Auburn University researches what's called vapor wake. Think of it like blowing out a candle with a little trail of smoke. That's what the off-lead dog has to be trained to alert to.

For the actual training, we work with K2 Kennels in North Carolina, a big supplier to the U.S. Military. They have a lot of credibility.

Whose idea was it to bring this capability to the LAPD?

SGT. MITCH: Really it's a team effort from the Bomb Detection Canine section. They are all experienced handlers.

OFCR. VANESSA: And Chief Downing.

OFCR. TOM: Chief Michael Downing procured the grants to purchase these dogs.

SGT. MITCH: And he allocated the resources. The LAPD reallocated some police officer positions that didn't exist in our unit. Staffing of our TSA unit did not go down to staff these additional positions.

Chief Downing is very forward-looking. He's the Counter Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau Chief. His whole thing is – the world has changed. It used to be we'd either find the device or have an explosion, and then we'd start dealing with it. We've got to be way ahead of that. We are out there as a deterrent, hoping to find something that's been introduced before it gets to a dangerous situation. Let's intercept it before it ever happens. That's the way to go.

There is so much intelligence out there now. There are so many social media threats, and there are so many copycats, lone-wolf-type individuals out there now. It would be negligent if we were not out there trying to deal with these things. If we were just waiting until, oh, there's something unusual here, they've already defeated us at that point.

Spreading the Word

Since person-borne detection and off-lead detection are new, are you letting people in the department know?

OFCR. TOM: Part of our mission now is to go out to the roll calls and the City, the three of us, and introduce ourselves to the different divisions and the watch commanders and let them know – number one, who we are; and two, what our capabilities are and what services we can provide to them. A lot of the officers don't know that Bomb K9 even exists unless they have used us or seen us at a search before. Everybody knows that Metro canines are out there because they have all utilized them before, but Bomb K9, because it's such a specialty, a lot of uniformed police officers have never utilized our services before and don't understand that we are a tool and a resource for them. Part of our mission is letting the different entities know we are a resource so they can start requesting our services.

SGT. MITCH: And we have to explain to them that there are different reasons that a dog might alert, and there are the different levels of force that would be appropriate based on what's going on. A lot of people don't understand exactly what happens when a dog alerts, so we've got to make it very clear to them before we deploy with them.

OFCR. ED: As far as the officers are concerned, if they see bomb detection, I think they think we're from the airport. They haven't realized, oh wait, we can free up. We are the City, not TSA. They can actually use us. They can call us for certain types of events.

Measures of Success

Are there any very early signs of success?

OFCR. TOM: I think the biggest measure of success for us is measured by what hasn't happened. If we are out there every day and we are deployed and going to different locations, and nothing happens, then to me that's the measure of success.

OFCR. ED: We've already been deployed to different areas throughout the City, including Pershing Square, L.A. Live and things like that. As long as we are out there and this capability is there, it's just another way of trying to prevent something, trying to be proactive.

OFCR. ED: The reception has been fantastic.

OFCR. TOM: Yes it's been huge. That's the best part.

OFCR. ED: People tell us, "Oh, wow, glad you guys are out here." They even recognize when they look at the dogs' vests that say, "Do Not Pet," they want to pet it but they know they can't. "Oh, the dog is working," they say. It's just been a great response.

OFCR. TOM: We've gotten emails and phone calls. We haven't had one location that we've gone to where we've had a bad reception. We get emails and phone calls from people, asking when we're coming back. It's really a positive thing. They really like seeing us out there.

Thank you all for your time.

THE OFFICERS: You're welcome. ■



Officer Ed Dominguez.



John's Picture Perfect Contest

John Hawkins, Club CEO

WIN A
\$25 TARGET
GIFT CARD



"Long Beach sunrise and the little blue house."

– **Victor Ladd, Retired**

John's comment: You gotta love California in the winter! That sunset is priceless, Victor – nice work!



"I attended a march in downtown Los Angeles a couple of years ago and was intrigued by this little girl."

– **Rose Serrato, LAPD**

John's comment: Good eye, Rose, and I really like how you isolated the girl by changing the background to black and white.



"Here's a snowball fight at the Grand Canyon."

– **Demian Wyma, LAPD**

John's comment: Demian, a Picture Perfect indeed! When I opened up your picture it felt like that snowball was headed right for me. Nice work, as always!



"Here's my son, Joe, 8. Here's a tunnel view of Yosemite Valley. Joe is a bit quirky, and here he is with a rare smile. We traveled to Yosemite this past December and had a great time. We even ice-skated."

– **Stephanie Burkhart, LAPD/Communications**

John's comment: Thanks, Stephanie, for this great shot of Joe and Yosemite! That exact view is one of my top 10 views in the world.

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.

Life's Important Moments

Share your moments!

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

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

New Members

Airports

Katina Cole
Alvin Duncan
Luis Hernandez
Don Martinez II

Community Development

Rosa Arcadia

Controllers Office

Debra Lewis

General Services

Pablo Ruiz
David Shubin
Gregory Torres
Leopoldo Villasenor

Harbor

David Bickel
David Castaneda
Salvador Chavez

ITA

Peter Benjamins

Library

Claudia De Leon
Jennifer Duarte
Lawrence Hall
Jennifer Haun

LAPD

Edgar Arca
Steven Arellano
Joseph Cha
Kimberly Cisco
Todd Costello
Dennis Cunningham
Michael Daly
Claudia De La Cruz
Jeff Deacon
Ryan Fox
Erin Fuller
Gabriel Gaxiola
Mark Hogan
Randy Holcombe
Michael Knoke
Rick Koval
Michael Larson

Francisco Macias
John Madrid
Jose Martinez
Tara Munjekovich
Jay Nam
Andrew Pedersen
Guy Pereira
Edward Petterez
Tina Rios
Kristine Salazar
Sandra Sanchez
Ryan Terukina
Kenneth Thomas
Herman Usma
Valery Vargas
Belinda Vasquez
Steve Villanueva
Dalila Vizcarra
Kolin Williams
Raymond Wong
Crystal Wysong
Clifton Yamamoto
Stewart Yoon

PUBLIC WORKS

PW-Contract Administration

Marie Martinez

PW-Engineering

Nancy Avila
Lydia Gonzalez
Edward Hernandez
Monte Tucker

PW-Sanitation

Marcus Johnson
Christopher Johnson Sr

PW-Street Lighting

Michael Andrade
Felix Palombo

PW-Street Services

James Duncan

Rec and Parks

Deon Crockett
Ronald Evans

Rosalinda Gonzales

Jose Gonzalez
Alma Lopez
Joshua Martinez
Celina Moreno
Peter Nishimura
Erica Ortiz
Adan Prieto Jr.
Robert Ramos
Elsa Reynoso
Dorvil Robenson
Phillip Wiley
Walidah Williams

Transportation

Wendy Brown
Aaron Brown
Richard Fullman
Sherika Garrett
John Hall
Lindra Williams

Retired

Brenda Andres

DWP

Mondyko Aubry
Concepcion Barbaznnes
Joseph Eagen
Rosendo Orozco
Kenneth Rodriguez
Patricia Spinneberg

Other

Berenice Barajas
DeMario Barnes
John Cruz
Chadwick Diego
Joshua Gomez
Joseph Gonzalez
Jasmine Harper
Drisana Hoyrd
Nalani Lopez
Linda Ong
Ivan Renteria
Avery Smith
Eric Taylor
Barbara Terry
Stephanie Vega

Peace of Mind

BY TIFFANY SY,
The Club's Peace of Mind Expert
tsy@cityemployeesclub.com



Covering Your Paycheck When You Can't Work

Disability insurance is the least popular type of insurance due to costs compared to other insurance products, and odds are small you will become disabled. But is it worth the risk to not have coverage? According to the Social Security Administration, as of December 2013, the number of recipients receiving disability payments was approximately 8.4 million. Of this total, almost 4.9 million were between the ages of 18 and 64. One in four of today's 20-year-olds will become disabled before reaching age 67.

Most of you who have met me have most likely heard me say, "It's better to

have it and not need it, than to not have it and need it." With disability insurance, we are paying out enough claims at the Club to justify absolutely needing it.

Long-Term Disability covers you in the event of an illness or injury, whether on or off the job. You are entitled to a non-taxable benefit of 70 percent of your gross salary, or 60 percent of your gross salary without other benefit sources. Since the benefit you receive from us is not taxed, it will closely reflect the amount of income on your pay stub after your tax deductions. The duration of the benefit is paid out until the age of 65 (retirement age) or until you can return

to work.

Some of you have asked me why disability insurance can be so expensive. Let's consider the coverage – your salary. Disability insurance typically covers 60 to 70 percent of one's salary to ensure the individual can continue one's current lifestyle and settle expenses. The estimated annual salary is an average of \$50,000. If a 40-year-old intended to work until 60 and is now incapable of working due to a permanent disability, that's an income loss of more than 20 years times a salary of \$50,000, equivalent to \$1 million. The more you make, naturally, the higher your premi-

ums will be. Is this cost worth the risk of not having your paycheck covered?

For many families, the idea of losing just a few months' paychecks is not an option. How would they deal with a longer-term or permanent situation?

The Club accepts applications all year for our group-exclusive Long-Term Disability plan. Eligibility is offered to active City and DWP employees, and approval is based on medical review.



Special Achievement

Have you or your children recently achieved something special? Send to talkback@cityemployeesclub.com

A Very Special Athlete Is Honored

Jenna Ramirez, a student at Eagle Rock High School, rode on the Kaiser Permanente/Special Olympics float in last month's Rose Parade. She is a 2012 Most Inspirational athlete for Special Olympics of Southern California. She participates in aquatics, bowling and soccer. Her whole family volunteers as coaches.

She's the daughter of Tina Corona, Rec and Parks, sister to Anthony Ramirez, Rec and Parks, and niece to Fabian Corona, Rec and Parks.

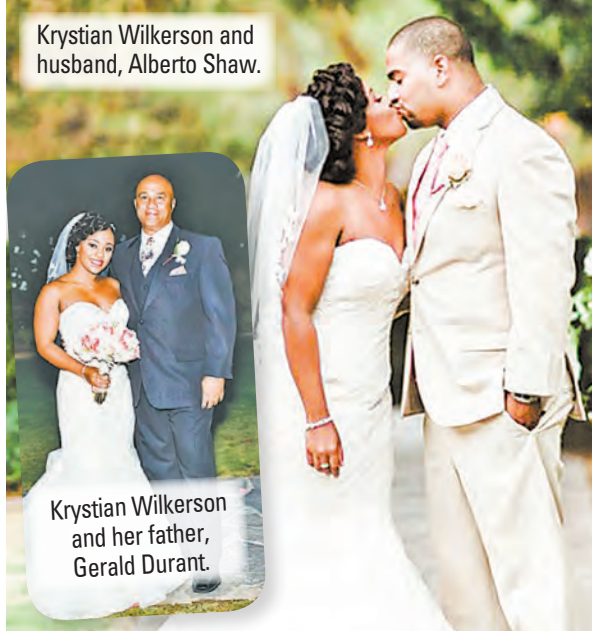


Weddings

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



Sonia Robinson and Bishop K. Donnell Smith, Aug. 16 at Butterfly Beach in Montecito. Sonia is an Executive Assistant III, Rec and Parks.



Krystian Wilkerson and husband, Alberto Shaw.

Krystian Wilkerson and her father, Gerald Durant.

Krystian Wilkerson and Alberto Shaw, Oct. 18 at Pala Mesa Resort in Fallbrook, Calif. Krystian is the daughter of "proud father" Gerald Durant, Firefighter/Diver III, LAFD.



Maria Gambino and David Gois, Dec. 13. Maria is a Detention Officer, LAPD.



• **Alive! In The Military**

• **Graduations**

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

Births

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



Nikolaas Jay Garcia, born Sept. 26 to Valerie and Gabriel Garcia, LAPD/Jail Division. Nikolaas is the fifth grandchild of Delia Diaz, Public Works/Sanitation.



Nalah Davis, born Oct. 7 to Natasha and Eddie Davis. Grandmother is Valerie Nettles, General Services. Grandfather is Tony Nettles.

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.

Active

Balbach, Gordon, ITA, 10
Banuelos, Nick, DWP, 28
Lewis, Delonda, LAPD, 14
Norman, Cathy, LAPD, 27
Vernon, D'Andre, DWP, 26

Retired

Aguirre, Victoriano, DWP, 24
Anderson, Irene, LAFD, 38
Benjamin, Clarence Sr., DWP, 20
Bitterman, Dan, DWP, 26
Cottrell, Stephen, DWP, 26
Curry, Robert, LAPD, 30
Davis, James, DWP, 38
Davis, Marie, DWP, 22
Drha, Gertrude, Transportation, 9
Dumdum, Jose Jr., DWP, 11
Eilen, Harold, DWP, 10
Fontanilli, Peter, DWP, 30
Fontes, Gustavo, DWP, 31
Fuentes, Roger, DWP, 27
Fujii, Sumiyo, Library, 17
Gallegos, Anastacio, Housing, 17
Goodreau, Cyril, Public Works, 27

Guidry, Allen, Public Works, 31
Hartman, John, Public Works, 25
Hartman, Spencer, DWP, 31
Holguin, Robert, Motor Transport, 26
Hoover, Fenton, DWP, 30
Howard, Robert, Public Works, 41
Irons, James, DWP, 14
Jones, Michael, DWP, 25
Jones, Robert, DWP, 30
Klein, Mary, Rec and Parks, 1
Kennedy, Elaine, City Clerk, 28
Kimura, Leonard, General Services, 24
King, Charles, Transportation, 28
Knowles, Harold, Public Works, 14
Kotter, John, General Services, 13
Lagoy, Leonard, DWP, 31
Lee, Ernest, Public Works, 46
Lemos, Raul, Harbor, 34
Lew, Cheong, Public Works, 35
Lydon, Patricia, LAPD, 31
Mason, Betty, Rec and Parks, 11
McDonnell, William, DWP, 39
McKellips, Carl, DWP, 29
Mellinger, Roland, Public Works, 27

It's Time to

Tell Their Story

An *Alive!* feature

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

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



Mungia, Ernest, DWP, 32
Murakami, Walter, Public Works, 24
Mutchison, Fred, General Services, 24
Nozaki, Jimmy, Harbor, 30
Olson, Daryl, Public Works, 32
Olson, Winfield, Airports, 12
Ornelas, Lorraine, Rec and Parks, 3
Page, Dorothy, Building and Safety, 10
Perez, William, DWP, 26
Pike, Robert, DWP, 16
Quintana, George, Public Works, 32
Rey, Alfonso, Rec and Parks, 34
Rivera, Roger, Public Works, 21
Robertson, Darrell, DWP, 32
Roy, Albert, General Services, 22

Schaad, Patricia, Personnel, 9
Schubert, Billy, Public Works, 35
Seifer, Roslyn, DWP, 14
Shapiro, Tillie, DWP, 24
Smith, Elvira, DWP, 33
Stuermer, F.S., Planning, 32
Sullivan, Gerald, Public Works, 38
Swaigood, Robert, DWP, 33
Tovar, Alberto, DWP, 23
Troup, John, DWP, 31
Vasquez, Martin, Public Works, 30
Voors, David, DWP, 34
Wax, Freeda, DWP, 30
Williams, Bernard, Public Works, 30
Yamauchi, Rena, LAPD, 35

The City Parties!

Part 2

Special Holiday Party Section

The City Parties!



Sgt. Alden Marsh, Traffic Officer, Transportation, 8 years of City service (right) with his wife, Linda (next to him) and (from left) Jason Grimes, son-in-law; and Adriana Grimes, daughter.

Story and photo courtesy Alden Marsh, Transportation, Club Member

Transportation/Valley Division

Transportation/Valley Division held its fabulous "Christmas Affair" Dec. 12 at the Vatican Banquet Hall in Hollywood. All the stars were out for fine food, drinks and dancing.

All across the City, you celebrated the holidays. And *Alive!* was there! Here in February, *Alive!* continues its coverage of the City Social Season 2014, with stories and photos from Club staff ... and sent in by you, too.

Enjoy the memories!



Mario Macias, Refuse Collection Truck Operator, 11 years of City service, with his wife, Lessly.



From left: Octavio Chapa, Refuse Collection Truck Operator II, 37 years of City service; and Andy Morales, Refuse Collection Truck Operator II, 28 years, with his wife, Ofelia.



Tonwa Tutt, guest, with Yves Voltaire, Wastewater Collector, 13 years of City service.



Desiree Rojas, guest, with Jesse Valdez, Refuse Collection Truck Operator, 16 years of City service.



Sandro Sanchez, Refuse Collection Truck Operator, 15 years of City service, with his wife, Jasmine.



Top, from left: Deja Garcia, guest; Emerald Garcia, guest; and Gerald Lopez, Refuse Collection Truck Operator II, 30 years of City service. Bottom: guests Eva Heredia and Diana Mejia.



From left: Linda Lopez, guest, with Stella Rodriguez and Gerald Lopez.

Aaron Daniels, Wastewater Worker II, 10 years of City service, with his wife, Julieta Martinez-Daniel.



Story by Isabel Marquez and Jackie Burciaga, Club Counselor; Photos by Isabel Marquez



Sanitation North Central Yard

On Dec. 13, the Public Works' North Central Sanitation Yard employees held their annual holiday party with their families and friends. The night consisted of a nice dinner as well as prizes. Guests also enjoyed a photo booth for fun pictures with their families and friends.

The Club thanks Andy Morales, Jesse Valdez, Mario Macias and Sandro Sanchez of the Holiday Committee North Central Chapter for organizing this event and allowing the City Employees Club to be part of the event as well.



The Holiday Committee North Central Chapter, from left: Andy Morales, Vice President; Jesse Valdez, President; Mario Macias, Sgt.-at-Arms; and Sandro Sanchez, Treasurer.

The City Parties!



Jennifer Smith, Principal Clerk, City Attorney's Office, 19 years of City service.



Story and photos by Isabel Marquez



Harbor Dept.

On Dec. 19, the Harbor Dept. held its annual holiday party at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The event consisted of a nice dinner, raffles and dancing.

Guests were able to enjoy a photo booth to take pictures of themselves with their families and friends. In attendance was the new Harbor Executive Director Eugene D. Seroka with Deputy Executive Director of External Relations Cynthia Ruiz.

We thank Jessica Bautista for always inviting us to this event, and we look forward to future events.

Cecelia Railey, Management Analyst, 27 years of City service, with her husband, Bill, Retired, 34 years.



From left: Marisela Carballo-DiRuggiero, Director of Legislative Affairs, 12 years of City service; with Joanna and Antonio Alvarado Jr., Sr. Lead Officer, 16 years of City service.



From left: Christine Pina, Clerk Typist, 9 years of City service; Mary Ramos, Clerk Typist, 12 years; and Leigh Smith, Media Relations, 11 years.



Front, from left: Jennifer Lewis, Master Control Operator, 2 years of City service, with Cathy Lewis, Sr. Management Secretary IV, 23 years, and her husband; Richard, Retired. Back: Joel Pitts, guest.



From left: Jessica Bautista, Management Aide, 19 years of City service; Vanessa Guillen, Clerk Typist, 10 years; Crystal Lee, Vice President, Civil Engineer, 8 years; Tracy Zuliani, Transportation Planning Associate II, 15 years; and Steve Salas, Maintenance Construction Helper, 13 years.



Fernando Medina, Pile Driver, Div. 135, 4 months of City service, with his wife, Maria.



Daniel Alanis, guest, with Beverly Monroy, Professional Student Worker, 1 year of City service.



Carlos Gonzales, Software Engineer, 1 year of City service, with his wife, Rosa.



Eugene D. Seroka, Executive Director, 5 months of City service; and Cynthia Ruiz, Deputy Executive Director of External Relations, 10 years.



From left: Steve Salas, Maintenance Construction Helper, 13 years of City service; his wife, Rosanna; and guests Araceli Melena and George Rios.



LACECA's newly elected Board with Commissioner Sandra Figueroa.



Irma Gonzalez with her prize.



From left: Ruben Basquez and Luis de la Torre.



Leonor, Edna, and a friend enjoy the party.



Arts in Action, Director Jesus Mascorro, Director, Arts in Action (the recipient of the donated toys) thanks LACECA members for the toy donations.



At the LACECA Christmas event.



Guests enjoy the entertainment.



From left: Ana Chavez; Personnel AGMs Gloria Sosa and Alex Basquez; and Frank Serrano.



Police Commissioner Sandra Figueroa with her husband.



Public Works Commissioners Mike Davis and Monica Rodriguez.

LACECA Toy Drive And Party

Story by Mimi Walker and Jackie Zarate; Photos by Celina Cordova

The Los Angeles City Employees Chicano Association (LACECA) celebrated its 42nd annual Toy Drive and Holiday Reception Dec. 11 at the City Hall Tower's Tom Bradley Room.

Among several VIPs in attendance were City Attorney Mike Feuer; Police Commissioner Sandra Figueroa-Villa and her husband; Public Works Commissioners Monica Rodriguez and Mike Davis; CCFS Commissioner Irma Nunez; and Personnel AGMs Gloria Sosa and Alex Basquez.

Members and their guests enjoyed delicious catered food and *aguas frescas* from Tacos la Guera. Attendees enjoyed listening to singers Marisa Martinez and Fernando "Elviz" Ramirez performing a medley of Christmas carols; dancing to the cumbias, salsa, and other popular tunes assembled by the "Music Makes the Mood" DJ; and having their pictures taken at the Damask Photo Booth. Throughout the evening, many members/guests went home happy with door prizes, some of which were donated by the City Employees Club.

Throughout the year, LACECA organizes various activities for its members. Traditionally, a toy drive is held during the holiday season, when members and guests bring toys to benefit children in various nonprofit organizations within the Los Angeles area. This year, the toys were presented at the end of the event to Arts Programs Manager Jesus Mascorro of the organization "Arts in Action" in Boyle Heights. Accompanying him were the Executive Director Stephanie Conde and teachers Jamie Kikuchi and Glenda Aleman.



Marisa Martinez sings Christmas carols.



Martha serves *aguas frescas* and her famous *champurrado*.



From left: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Serrano, Irma Gonzalez, and Dan Valenzuela.



Sonia, Leonor, Lupe, Angie, and Sgt. John Vazquez.



LACECA's new Board with the City Attorney Mike Feuer.



Lupe Durazo, Lt. Al Labrada and Stella Sias.



Jackie Zarate with CCFS Commissioner Irma Nunez and Police Commissioner Sandra Figueroa-Villa.



From left: J. Michael, Stephanie Herron and Mimi Walker.



From left: Angie Roman, Kathy Valenzuela and Stella Sias are ready to welcome the guests.

The City Parties!



Peter Hernandez, Sr. Personnel Analyst II, Club Member, is presented with an appreciation certificate by HR Director Paula Adams, Club Member.



Peter Hernandez, Sr. Personnel Analyst II, Retiree, 13 years of City service, Club Member, with his wife, Freda (left) and daughter, Hilary.



From left: Shatana Bacon, Management Analyst, 9 years of City service, Club Member, and Frank Serrano, Personnel Analyst, 13 years.



From left: Roberta Beyard, Sr. PA, 30 years of City service, Club Member; Tina R. Johnson, Sr. CT, 34 years, Club Member; and Baismah Baig, CT, 2 years.



Standing, from left: Katherine Jones, Exec. Admin Assistant, 15 years of City service; Peter Hernandez, Retiree, Sr. Personnel Analyst II, Club Member; and Samson Mengistu, Deputy Director, 25 years, Club Member. Seated: Devon Deming, Ride Share Program Manager, 15 years; and Melissa Molina, Vanpool Program Manager, 11 years, Club Member.

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

Airports/ LAX HR

Dept. says goodbye to Peter Hernandez, who retired.

Airports/LAX's Human Resources Division held its annual holiday luncheon Dec. 17 at LAX. At the luncheon, employees also celebrated the retirement of Peter Hernandez, Sr. Personnel Analyst II, 13 years of City service, Club Member. Congratulations, Peter, on your City career! There was plenty of great food, games and prizes at the luncheon.

Special thanks go to Linda Brown, Acting Personnel Records Supervisor, Club Member; Olivia Riter, Personnel Director, Club Member; and Paula Adams, HR Director, Club Member.



Standing, from left: Peter Hernandez, Retiree, Sr. Personnel Analyst II, 13 years of City service, Club Member; Paula Adams, HR Director, 25 years, Club Member; and Linda Brown, Acting Personnel Records Supervisor, 25 years, Club Member and Club Rep. Seated: Brenda Crawford, Accounting Clerk II, 15 years, Club Member; Sandra Cuadra, CT, 7 years; and Michelle Menchaca, Personnel Analyst, 14 years.



Devon Deming, Ride Share Program Manager, sings holiday songs.



From left: Josephine Serrano, Vocational Worker II, 11 years of City service; and Hope Leal, Personnel Analyst, 25 years, Club Member.



From left: John Ward, Delivery Driver II, 14 years of City service, Club Member; Olivia Riter, Personnel Director, 28 years, Club Member; Carmen Lopez, Personnel Analyst, 9 years, Club Member; and Arthur Palomar, CT, 13 years, Club Member.



Standing: Paula Adams, HR Director, 25 years of City service, Club Member. Seated: Ebony Harper, Sr. CT, 14 years, Club Member; and Irina Jodzio, CT, 5 years, Club Member.



From left: Claudia Rojo, Sr. CT, 15 years of City service, Club Member; Jamet Lamwathananon, CT, 2 years; and Raquel Fierro, Vocational Worker, 1 years, Club Member.



Tom Mumay, Sr. Personnel Analyst II, reads answers to the holiday trivia.



From left: Sandra Bijou, Personnel Analyst II, 24 years of City service, Club Member; Shannon Cherry, Sr. CT, 11 years, Club Member; and Racheal Walker, Sr. PA, 23 years.



From left: Carolyn Boyd, CT, 8 years of City service; Tanya Baker, CT, 33 years, Club Member; and Angela Brown, Personnel Analyst, 15 years, Club Member.



From left: Cindy Harrell, Personnel Records Supervisor, 14 years of City service, Club Member; and Jeanine Jenkins, Personnel Analyst, 8 years, Club Member.



From left: De'Ann McCoy, Sr. PA II, 33 years of City service; Manny Melendez, Mail Room Supervisor, 30 years; and Shannon Lawrence, MA, 4 years, Club Member.



LAFACE Board Members.



Carolers.



From left: Maria Sheets, Asst. Director, Public Works; Rea Lazo, SMS Payment Clerk GSD, 26 years of City service, Club Member; and Maurice Dawkins, LAFD Management Analyst, 25 years.



From left: Ramon Villanueva, guest; Ricardo Villanueva, Retired, LAPD; Dely Villanueva, Retired, Controller, former LAFACE President; Rowena Workman, EWDD Exec. Admin. Asst., 26 years, Club Member; and Charles Workman, guest.



From left: Mary Ann Valdez-Manosa, Sr. Tax Auditor, 27 years of City service; and Norma Cabana, Payroll Analyst, 33 years, Club Member.



Line dancing.



From left: Mildred Jacla, SMS Payment Clerk, 14 years of City service, LAFACE Treasurer; Griselda Pabellano, Public Works/Sanitation Sr. Clerk Typist, 8 years, LAFACE President; and Alex Banares, Accounting Clerk Controller, 10 years, Club Member, LAFACE Vice President.



Rodney Bernaldo, Public Works/Sanitation, 15 years of City service, Club Member.



From left: Linda Granados, Public Works/Sanitation Program Manager, 14 years of City service, Club Member; and Dely Villanueva, Retired, Controller.

Story and photos by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor

LAFACE

The Los Angeles Filipino Association of City Employees (LAFACE) held its holiday party in the Tom Bradley Room atop Los Angeles City Hall on Dec. 19. The venue had a beautiful view of the city and was decorated festively.

Guests enjoyed traditional Filipino food and a chocolate fountain for the dessert aficionados. Partygoers were entertained by live music, holiday games, dancers, and an ugly sweater contest. Everyone had a merry time!



Back row, from left: Joan Alexandra S. Tagle, Management Asst., 11 years of City service, Club Member, LAFACE Recording Secretary; and Veronica E. Salumbides, Utility Administrator II, 20 years, LAFACE Auditor. Front: Lillia Licican, Chief Accountant, 13 years, Club Member; and Josie Carreon, Management Analyst II, 13 years.



Holiday games.



Linda Granados and children.



From left: Marlon Enriquez, guest; Cecil Aguirre, LAFD Fiscal System Specialist, 19 years of City service, Club Member; and William Ayala, Assistant, Council District 13, 7 years.



Guests.



Susie Feliciano, Fiscal System Specialist, General Services, 32 years of City service, Club Member, and guests.



Singer Anton Salvador.

The City Parties!



From left: Paul Garcia, Clerk Typist, 7 years of City service; Anna Areyan, Clerk Typist, 7 years; Misha McConnell-Todman, Clerk Typist, 8 years; Donna Lee Norrington, Management Analyst III, 9 years; and in back, Judy Hom, Executive Admin. Assistant II, 34 years.

Avo Davidian introduces Gary Hill for "The Twelve Days of Christmas."



Story and photos by Isabel Marquez

LAFD Staff

The Fire Dept. staff held its holiday party Dec. 11 at the Almansor Court. The luncheon consisted of games, singing, and dance performances. The guests all participated in singing "The Twelve Days of Christmas," hosted by Gary Hill.

Guests also enjoyed a dance performance by employees as well as an Aladdin dance performance. In attendance was Chief Rick Terrazas.

Thanks to the Fire Dept. staff and Jennifer Corona for inviting the Club to this fun event.

Muriel Gee, Sr. Management Analyst, 14 years of City service, won the "how to tear a Christmas tree without looking" game.



June W. Gibson, Fire Administrator, 46 years of City service



Gary Hill sings "The Twelve Days of Christmas."



From left: Wade Lee Torres, guest; Maria Lozano, Sr. Clerk Typist, 14 years of City service; Silvia Pena, Clerk Typist, 15 years; and Laura Kakita, Accounting Clerk II, 8 years.



Salvador Martinez, Chief Management Analyst, 30 years of City service; and June W. Gibson, Fire Administrator, 46 years.



Dancers from the ASB section perform "Shake It Off" by Taylor Swift.



Jennifer Corona, Club Member since 2004.



Carla Saturno, Accounting Clerk, 19 years of City service, won the musical chairs game.



Battalion Chief Fred Mathis and Battalion Chief George Everett with Fire Chief Rick Terrazas.



From left: William R. Jones, Sr. Management Analyst II, 26 years of City service; Cynthia L. White, Sr. Personnel Analyst II, 26 years; and Norma Gutierrez, Personnel Director II, 24 years.



Gifts.



Playing musical chairs.

The Aladdin dance performers.



Standing with John Wayne.



Maurice Jacobs, Construction Equipment Service Worker, 17 years of City service, Club Member; and Michele Ward.



From left: Theresa Alvarez; Sgt. Jose Alvarez, 7 years of City service; K9 Officer Andy Sklarsh, 6 years, Club Member; Sgt. Jerome Niles, 9 years, Club Member; Susan Edwards; and Sgt. Ralph Edwards, 20 years, Club Member.

Story and photos by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor

Port Police Association

The Los Angeles Port Police Association held its cowboy-themed holiday party Dec. 20. It was a festive event full of cheer with a side of country.

The Port Police did a magnificent job decorating the venue held at the Ports O' Call restaurant in San Pedro. Plaid was strewn across the room, along with mason jars and sunflower centerpieces. Guests who were feeling lucky had the opportunity to "gamble" at one of the tables. Those who were brave enough were able to ride the electronic bull. And everyone who cared to capture the excitement could do so by using the photo booth. Revelers enjoyed the buffet along with a raffle of prizes. There was no shortage of country music, cowboy hats, and most importantly, holiday fun.



From left: Fernando Martinez, Sr. Lead Officer, 10 years of City service, Club Member; Lorena Martinez; and Yadira Tanory.



From left: William Yochem, Sr. Lead Officer, 15 years of City service, Club Member; Sgt. Jerome Niles, 9 years, Club Member; and guests.



From left: Officer Frank Huang, 7 years of City service, Club Member; Sgt. Nathanael Blair, 7 years, Club Member; and Motor Officer Michael Glimpse, 9 years, Club Member.



Rudy Meza, Retired Port Police, and Mo Meza.



From left: Tracy Glimpse and Rebekah Blair.



Officer Frank Huang and Club Counselor Jeanette Gadut.



From left: Motor Officer Morgan Evans, 8 years of City service, Club Member; Danielle Evans; and Katie and Mike McGill.



From left: Christine Pina, Clerk Typist, Port Police, 9 years of City service, Club Member; and Jessica Bautista, Management Aide, 19 years, Club Member.



Guests enjoy the buffet.



Officer III Bryan Mullany, 12 years of City service, Club Member, with Veronica Velasquez.



Aaron and Loan Mascorro.



From left: Ismael Flores, Sr. Lead Officer, 9 years of City service, Club Member; Diana Flores; Claudia Castillo; Alex Castillo Sr. Lead Officer, 10 years, Club Member; Jessica Ferrara; and Lt. Rosario Ferrara, 12 years, Club Member.



Officer Frank Huang, 7 years of City service, Club Member, and Michelle Huang.



From left: Chief Ron Boyd, 34 years of City service, Club Member; Asst. Chief Mike Hillmann, 44 years; Officer Frank Huang, 7 years, Club Member; Motor Officer Michael Glimpse, 9 years, Club Member; Eugene D. Seroka, Executive Director, 6 months; and Sgt. Nathanael Blair, 7 years, Club Member.



Riding the electronic bull.



Having fun.



"Gambling."

The City Parties!



Classroom 2's greeting card for Santa Claus.



Officers with Santa Claus.



Traffic Officer Juan Vasquez speaks to the children.



The greeting card the children made for Santa Claus.



Officers arrive at Classroom 1.



Vanessa Garcid-Mendoza, Traffic Officer II, 12 years of City service, reads "A Visit From St. Nicholas (The Night Before Christmas)" to the children in class.



In Classroom 2, the children sing.



Traffic Officer Juan Vasquez with Assistant Principal Mrs. Clark.



Santa Claus provides children with gifts.



The children sing to the Officers.



Classroom 1 with Santa Claus, teachers and Traffic Officers.



Santa Claus, Officer Juan Vasquez and Sgt. Susan Rantz bring gifts in.



Santa Claus enters the classroom.

Story and photos by Isabel Marquez



Transportation/Valley Toy Giveaway



Traffic Officer Sergio Flores carries gifts.

On Dec. 17, Transportation/Valley Division officers gathered to take a trip to Pacoima Charter Elementary School to provide the students with gifts. Transportation/Valley Division has been doing this event for three years. The officers organized this event as a way to give back to the community.

At this event, I asked Officers Juan Vasquez and Francis Piazza why they chose this school in particular and why they decided to put this project together. They indicated that Pacoima Charter Elementary was in an economically challenged community, and they wanted to give back to the community. They wanted the community and others to see "the other side" of traffic enforcement. As they said, they are often viewed as people that "take, take, take" from the community, so they put together this project as a way to give back.

The morning consisted of the officers bringing Santa Claus to the kids and providing them with gifts. The looks on the children's faces were priceless as they were all very excited to see Santa Claus and the gifts. One class even greeted the officers by singing, "Do You Want to Build a Snowman" from the popular Disney movie *Frozen*.

This event is truly heartwarming, and the Club thanks Transportation/Valley Division for allowing us to be part of this. Thanks, Officer Juan Vasquez, for inviting us, and keep up the good work.



Traffic Officer Vanessa Garcid-Mendoza holds the gift cart. Traffic Officer Sergio Flores unloads the van. Sgt. Susan Rantz helps unload.



Classroom 2 children with Santa Claus and Traffic Officers.



Traffic Officer Vanessa Garcid-Mendoza reads a book to Classroom 2 students.



Children open their gifts.



Children receive gifts.



Children open their gifts (Class 1).



Front, from left: Ed Arensdorf, Santa Claus (who resembles Traffic Officer Aguirre Barrena); Vanessa Garcid-Mendoza, Traffic Officer II, 12 years of City service; and Juan Vasquez, Traffic Officer II, 10 years. Back: Capt. Richard Rea, 26 years; Francis Piazza, Traffic Officer II, 8 years; Sgt. Susan Rantz, 25 years; Sergio Flores, Traffic Officer II, 8 years; and Enrique De La Cruz, Traffic Officer.

The City Parties!



From left: Alma and Francisco Pimentel, Sr. Lead Officer, 24 years of City service, with daughters Aianna and Natalia.



Officer Alejandro DiazValle, 14 years of City service, with his wife, Christina.



From left: Sgt. Carlos Lopez, 26 years of City service with his wife, Dulce, and daughter, Denise.



Lt. Kevin Montgomery, 35 years of City service.



Linda and Sgt. Joe Tafoya, 26 years of City service.



Gildardo Vizcarra, Sr. Lead Officer, 22 years of City service (right), and his family, from left: Marisela, wife; Ariella, daughter; and Sofia, daughter.



Officer Jason Marquez, 7 years of City service, won an Asus tablet.



Officer Justin Tombar, 9 years of City service, Club Member; with Officer Isaac Burciaga, 8 years of City service, Club Member.



Cesar Barba, guest, and Gina Rodriguez, Communications Information Representative, 13 years of City service.



Mia and Capt. Richard Musquiz, 11 years of City service.



From left: Phil Graciano; Armando Nunez; Justin Tombar; Ronald Armstrong; Jason Marquez; and Isaac Burciaga.

Story by Isabel Marquez and Jackie Burciaga, Club Counselor

LAPD Security Services

The LAPD Security Services Division hosted its holiday party Dec. 13 at the City Hall Forecourt.

The night consisted of a nice dinner, raffles and dancing. We congratulate the raffle winners as well as the Nunez family, who won the grand prize of the night.

Thank you, Security Services holiday committee and Capt. Gina Sanders for a fun night and a great party.



Commander John Sherman, 30 years of City service, with his wife, Tracey



Officer Armando Nunez and his wife, Jennifer, won the grand prize, a 50-inch TV.



Victor Carrasco, Sr. Lead Officer, 26 years of City service, with his wife, Susan.



Thania Noguera, Security Officer, 15 years of service (right), and her husband, Victor de la Torre.



Sgt. Susan Kapoh, 25 years of City service, with her husband, Mark.



Sgt. Gabriel Mayorga, 16 years of City service, with his wife, Ana.



Alfredo Barrios, guest, and Erika Barrios, Security Officer, 5 years of City service.



Capt. Gina Sanders, 34 years of City service.



Phil Graciano, Sr. Lead Officer, 19 years of City service, with his wife, Gina.



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	Allstate	\$1,329
	Geico	\$1,311
	Auto Club	\$929
	United Agencies	\$876

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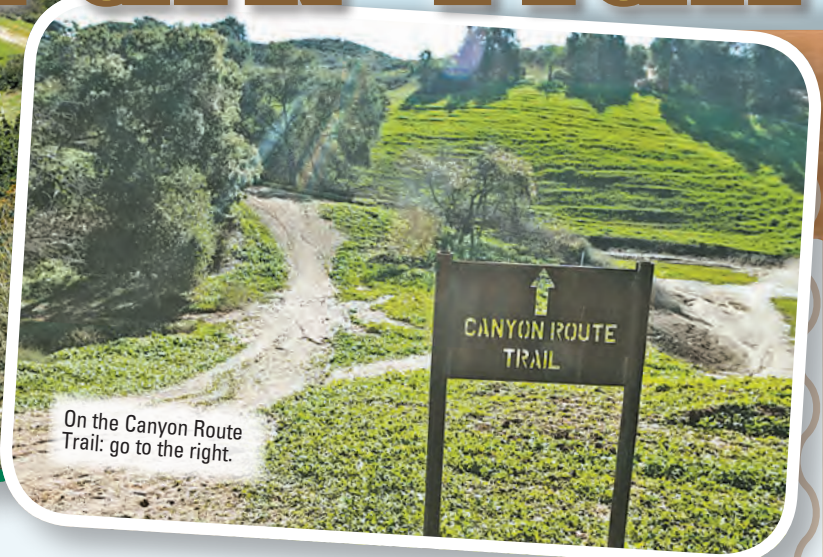
Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales
Angel's

Be Alive!

– **Diamond Bar**

Summitridge Park Trail

A gorgeous view of Steep Canyon trail and the mountains in the distance.



On the Canyon Route Trail: go to the right.

The Diamond Bar Center.



Hello again!

This month we travel to Diamond Bar. I was looking for an easy hike that was three miles or fewer, and I found Summitridge Park Trail. Wow! This place is super easy to hike and the views are spectacular! The foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains are to your left, and they look just like a painting that should be in a museum.

I really like this trail. The trail is easy, but it does have lots of incline sections, which lead to beautiful look-outs. I parked in the back left side of the Diamond Bar Center parking lot. The trail has lots of options, and they all lead up to amazing views. Let's begin!

The Hike

There is a system of trails so you have three options, up to one mile in distance; the trails include Ridge Route, Canyon Loop and the Grand View Route. We are definitely going to come back and hike this area again; the surrounding mountains and geographical points are very interesting, and if you look closely you can see downtown Los Angeles too.

Ridge Route is a newly built path with 105 steps that begins at the end of a cul-de-sac on Clear Creek Canyon Drive at Steep Canyon Road. After you walk up about a quarter of a mile, you will be able to see gorgeous views of

Diamond Bar. The trail has a 25 percent incline.

Access to the **Canyon Loop** is at a Southern California Edison easement on the east side of the Dare Court cul-de-sac. The trail heads east and starts with a moderate climb up slopes with grades of up to 19 percent. The fork in the trail gives you two options, and both are worth the walk.

Access to the **Grand View Route** is at the north-west portion of Summitridge Park. The trail goes west and runs along the top of the ridge, offering nice views of Diamond Bar.

Very important: You will need sunscreen, and bring plenty of water and snacks, too.

Send pictures of the great views to me at ago-mez@cityemployeesclub.com.

As always, be safe and Be Alive!

Angel



The stairs leading down, then up to hilltop in the distance. "Hi, Kathy!"

A picnic area behind the Diamond Center parking lot.



A sign gives the history of the Diamond Bar region. It's very informative.



Ridge Route midpoint: There's a big incline here, then gorgeous views.



Summitridge Park Trail

Diamond Bar Center • 1600 Grand Ave.
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Highlights: amazing views, hiking trails, picnics tables

Trail distance: about two miles, starting from the parking lot

Approximate time: 1.5 hours (depending on your pace)

Difficulty: up and down and a bit hilly, but an easy hike

Challenges: steep slopes with huge inclines, rattlesnake habitat, uneven paths with some erosion

Trail hours: Open a half-hour before sunrise; closed a half-hour after sunset

Parking: Free.

Directions: from Los Angeles, take the 110 north/Harbor Freeway. Then take the 60 Freeway east to Grand Avenue in Diamond Bar. Take the Grand Ave exit, then continue on Grand Avenue to the destination.



Reviews by Fellow Club Members

ENTERTAINMENT

At the Movies

• *In the cinema*

The Imitation Game

Rate PG-13

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

This movie is based on the story of Alan Turing (Benedict Cumberbatch), an English mathematician and logician recruited by British intelligence in 1939 to lead a team to break the German Enigma code. Joan Clarke (Keira Knightley) and Hugh Alexander (Matthew Goode) also make up the team. Turing builds a machine (a modern-day computer) to break the code. With the team and machine they succeed and were able to shorten the war and save thousands of lives. Years later in 1952, there was a burglary in Turing's home; when authorities investigate, they ended up arresting Turing for gross indecency for homosexuality.

Even though this was a serious movie, there were some witty lines in the movie that really kept my interest. The movie had outstanding acting and a great story. It's a good family movie but not for the very young.

— Gwen Lew, Retired, DWP

Taken 3

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

In *Taken 3*, we return to the world of Bryan Mills, an ex-covert ops specialist whose family has been favored by kidnapers. This time the action takes place in Los Angeles. Mills is framed for a murder he didn't commit and, after beating up a sizeable contingent of cops, he escapes to a bolt hole where he's able to refresh, replenish and re-apply the Grecian Formula. Cars crash, fists fly and guns blaze. I found this to be a great movie. It's very far fetched but undeniably entertaining.

I'm looking forward to a *Taken 4* if there will be one.

— Michi Slaughter, LAPD

Top Five

Rated R

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Entertaining throughout and laugh-out-loud funny in parts, *Top Five* was created by Chris Rock, who writes, directs and stars in this New York-based comedy. Rock stays close to home with his role as a comedian-turned movie star, who in the movie is commercially successful but lacks critical respect. Rosario Dawson plays a journalist trailing him for the day. Their "swear to tell the truth" storytelling drives the action, as they discover more about themselves and come to terms with who the other is. This "slice of life" works well and the naturalistic tone accommodates a lot of topics and well-known faces: Kevin Hart, Cedric the

Entertainer, J.B. Smoove and Gabrielle Union, to name but a few. It's certainly not for the young.

— Dearbhla McNulty, Club wife

Annie

Rated PG

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

There are too many versions of this Broadway musical in existence to release yet another similar one, so the Will Smith/Jada Pinkett Smith pop engine tried to contemporize little ole' Annie. A good idea, I thought, except this one is tone-deaf. The refreshed classic score by Strouse/Charnin doesn't mix well with hip-hop inclusions; Quvenzhané Wallis can't sing; the story turns simply wanting a family into ascending into the one-percent; and this Annie has no cultural depth – the relentless charm and optimism of the original 1930s comic strip battled the Depression, and the great 1977 stage musical's brightness battled the dreary, bankrupt New York of the time. This Annie? Who knows what she's battling against, except maybe a world that somehow has more charm and honesty than this movie does.

— John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

On a Screen Near You

• *Movies via DVDs, downloads and streaming*

Produced by George Martin (2001)

Unrated, suitable for all

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

Music producer/composer George Martin probably contributed more to the development of pop music in the latter half of the last century than anyone, except for maybe the Beatles, whom he famously produced for EMI/Apple Records. He's an incredible talent and a prodigious cultural figure. That's why I was so surprised – and delighted, really – to see so much of his home and family life in this BBC documentary, co-produced by his son, Giles. He's soft-spoken, decent and faithful. My only regret is that there isn't enough about his behind-the-scenes genius while working with the Beatles, even though it's a significant part of this 90-minute documentary. There's just too much to tell about this imposing yet humble man. The blu-ray/DVD versions contain 55 minutes of extra footage. That's my next pursuit.

— John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

Video Gaming

• *Video games via online, rental or purchase*

Murdered: Soul Suspect

Rated M for Mature

For PC, PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Xbox 360, Xbox One

My Score: 2 (out of 5)

I don't mind "generic" videogames being a little easy for players to get through without frustration, but the makers of *Murdered: Soul Suspect* must think that gamers can't figure out the trigger button from the analog stick, because this game is way too easy. The combat is overly simplified, the game lacks any kind of length (seriously, I finished the game in one sitting), and offers the player no real reason to continue the game once completed. It does have a neat story and premise, but those alone are no real reasons to want to play this game.

— Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Shovel Knight

Unrated

My Score: 5 (out of 5)

Shovel Knight is the kind of nostalgia-inducing game that pays homage to the old school home console games that many adult gamers grew up with while still maintaining a sense of self-identity to differentiate it from those older games and newer ones alike. It has an amazing sense of appeal because of the look and feel of the game but very much feels like the evolution of the industry. An independently made game, *Shovel Knight* is entertaining enough to make most gamers forget about Triple A games like *Titanfall* and

Madden in place of a true piece of video-game wonder.

— Richard Cardenas, LAPD

Theatre Reviews

Pippin

Musical

Pantages; Segerstrom

(production has closed)

Used Club Discount

My Score: 4 (out of 5)

These two stops of the national tour of the recent Broadway revival of *Pippin* brought the 1970s concept musical, infused with a traveling circus backdrop, to Southern California with much of its magic and cast intact. While the show still isn't great, it profiles the hyper-concepted life of a man, from teenaged angst and yearning, to surpassing his father, to war and sex, to the limitations/freedoms of a real relationship. And the show is helped by the current mega-success of *Wicked*, also by composer Stephen Schwartz.

While I still don't buy the feminization of the emcee/Leading Player (played by Ben Vereen in the original, here by *The Voice* vet Sasha Allen), it all went down pretty well, and the circus acrobats provided a flavor – and a better ending – that the original didn't have.

— John Burnes, *Alive!* editor

100 Words or Fewer

Here's how to submit your review. *Alive!* accepts entertainment reviews of 100 words or fewer.

We might not print them all, especially if we receive multiple reviews for the same movie, DVD or video game. Follow these rules:

Your Reviews!

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

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

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(213) 847-4707

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Room 1171
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Guests welcome!

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Arlene Herrero, FALEO-LA Director and Club Director of Product Development, is honored to accept a certificate of appreciation from Cmdr. William Arquero, Deputy Chief of the Philippine Coast Guard Staff for Community Relations Service.



From left: Sgt. Donald Salvador, Club Member; Dagupan City Administrator Farah Marie G. Decano; FTO Martha Lopez, Metro State Police; and Sgt. Marc Amon, Oxnard PD.



Welcoming the graduates is Cmdr. William Arquero, Deputy Chief of the Philippine Coast Guard Staff for Community Relations Service.



Cmdr. William Arquero, Deputy Chief of the Philippine Coast Guard Staff for Community Relations Service, with his own ballistic vest donated by FALEO-LA.



Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary Vice Admiral Joseph Dy with his very own ballistic vest donated by FALEO-LA.



Dagupan community leader Cabezon proudly wears his Oxnard PD cap and patch as he shared his best practice of community involvement.

FALEO

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



Working Together

Filipino law enforcement group helps train their counterparts in the Philippines.

Over the last Thanksgiving holiday, four members from FALEO-LA (Filipino American Law Enforcement Officers Association, Los Angeles chapter, traveled to Manila and Dagupan, Philippines, to help train members of several groups – the Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Philippine Coast Guard Special Operations Group, the Philippine National Police, the City of Dagupan Emergency Response Agency – in law enforcement tactics.

The trip took place Nov. 24-28 and was funded by the individual members.

Instructors who made the training trip were Sgt. Marc Amon, Oxnard Police Dept.; Officer Martha Lopez, Metro State Police Dept.; Felix Lopez, Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary; Sgt. Donald Salvador, Metro State Police Dept.; and Arlene Herrero, FALEO-LA Director and Club Director of Product Development.

“The Filipino American Law Enforcement Officers Association - Los Angeles Chapter partnered up with Filipino American Chamber of Commerce - Southeast Corridor to implement a training program,” explained Sgt. Donald Salvador, Metro State Police Dept. and Club Member.

FALEO-LA members taught their counterparts in maritime safety, building clearance, baton training, arrest and control, narcotics, searches and community relations.

FALEO-LA participated in this training trip “to help our community where we can and give back to our fellow Filipinos,” Sgt. Salvador said. “FALEO-LA plans to travel to the Philippines this year to again train the Philippine Coast Guard Special Operations Group. We are also looking forward to adding Manila International Airport Police and the Philippine Department of Corrections as we have been requested.”

The Filipino American Law Enforcement Officers Association (FALEO) was established to promote fraternal relationships and cultural awareness amongst all members (sworn and non-sworn) in law enforcement. To that end, FALEO is committed to supporting cultural, educational, recreational, and charitable services within our Communities.

“We truly could not have done this alone,” Sgt. Salvador commented. “We are grateful for what other organizations were able to assist us including the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, which many FALEO-LA members also belong to.

“In addition to the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce Southeast Corridor, we also want to thank the FALEO San Francisco chapter; FALEO San Diego chapter; the Oxnard Police Dept.; the Metro State Police Dept.; the LAPD; the San Diego Police Dept.; and the California Dept. of Health Care Services/ Investigations Unit. We also could not have done this without our instructors taking personal time from their agency and away from their families during the Thanksgiving holiday.”

Those wanting to donate to the cause can contact Sgt. Salvador at: dsalvador69957@yahoo.com



From left: Sgt. Donald Salvador, Club Member, is honored to accept a certificate of appreciation from Cmdr. William Arquero, Deputy Chief of the Philippine Coast Guard Staff for Community Relations Service.



FTO Martha Lopez, Metro State Police Dept., is honored to accept a certificate of appreciation from Cmdr. William Arquero, Deputy Chief of the Philippine Coast Guard Staff for Community Relations Service.



From left: Sgt. Marc Amon, Oxnard PD, is honored to accept a certificate of appreciation from Cmdr. William Arquero, Deputy Chief of the Philippine Coast Guard Staff for Community Relations Service.



FALEO-LA President Sgt. Salvador, Club Member, thanks the participants for the invitation and congratulates them for being the first to take part in the training.



Thank you, Dagupan Mayor Belen Fernandez, for inviting FALEO-LA to your beautiful city!



Participants proudly hold up their FALEO-LA Challenge coin.



On the first day of training, from left: Sgt. Marc Amon, Oxnard PD; FTO Martha Lopez, Metro State PD, Club Member; Felix Lopez, Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary; Sgt. Donald Salvador, Metro State PD, Club Member; and Arlene Herrero, FALEO-LA Director and Club Director of Product Development.



Felix Lopez, Philippine Coast Guard Auxiliary, discusses maritime training.



Dagupan officers were proud recipients of ballistic vests donated by FALEO-LA.



Sgt. Donald Salvador with Philippine Coast Guard/Special Operations Group.



Special volunteer award was a hat donated by Oxnard PD.



Dagupan employees proudly hold their FALEO-LA challenge coin.

Send Us Your Recipes!

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

Cooking with the Club

with Chef Robert Larios



Back by popular demand by employees at General Services, DWP and LAFD. So here is "Engagement Chicken" once again, to make this Valentine's Day extra special for all of you!



'ENGAGEMENT' CHICKEN

I spent some time researching a Valentine's Day recipe, and my interest was piqued by this 'Engagement' Chicken recipe. It is a recipe with a bit of history – or could it be folklore? In any case, it is claimed that the recipe was created by an editor at *Glamour* magazine. The recipe was forwarded to several co-workers, and soon three were offered marriage proposals after making the dish for their boyfriends. The recipe was also published in the magazine, and readers claimed that at least 70 couples were married after the women served their boyfriends the dish.

The recipe itself is very simple to follow, and it seems to hold a nice flavor. The recipe calls for about 1 hour 15 minutes of roasting, but it may take longer if you have a bigger bird.

Please let me know if anyone of you experiences the phenomena of 'Engagement' Chicken and receive marriage proposals! Happy Valentine's Day!

'Engagement' Chicken

Makes 4 Servings

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 whole chicken, 4 to 5 pounds
- 1 tablespoon sea salt
- 1 tablespoon freshly ground pepper
- 1/2 cup chopped parsley
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 3 – 4 lemons
- 1 tablespoon dill
- 1 sprig rosemary
- 8 to 12 medium-sized rose potatoes
- Approximately 12 stalks asparagus

Cooking TIDBIT

You may use other vegetables to roast along side the chicken.

DIRECTIONS:



1 Preheat oven to 400 °F. Wash chicken and drain cavity with cold water; let chicken drain and pat dry with paper towel. Pour juice of one lemon all over the outside and inside of the chicken. Do the same with the extra virgin olive oil. Add the sea salt and pepper to the inside and outside of chicken. Prick two lemons with a fork and place them inside the cavity of the chicken.



2 Season rose potatoes and asparagus with salt, pepper and olive oil. Lower oven temperature to 350°F and place chicken in roasting pan, with the potatoes along the sides of the chicken. Do not put the asparagus in the pan until the last 15 minutes or they will become mushy. Let cook for about 1 hour and 15 minutes or until meat thermometer reads 180°F. Always insert meat thermometer in a chicken thigh.



3 Once cooked to satisfaction, let chicken rest for 10 minutes before carving. Save the juices from the roasting pan and add to a slice of chicken. This is called the "Marry Me Juice." Garnish with parsley, rosemary and even lemon slices. Plate and enjoy!

[A Cook's Dictionary]

Dill:

Thought by first-century Romans to be a good luck symbol, dill has been around for thousands of years. This annual herb grows up to a height of about three feet and has feathery green leaves called dill weed, marketed in both fresh and dried forms. The distinctive flavor of fresh dill weed in no way translates to its dried form. Fresh dill does, however, quickly lose its fragrance during heating, so it should be added toward the end of the cooking time. Dill weed is used to flavor many dishes including salads, vegetables, meats, and sauces. The tan, flat dill seed is actually the dried fruit of the herb. Heating brings out the flavor of dill seed, which is stronger and more pungent than that of the leaves. It's most often used in the United States for the brine in which dill pickles are cured.



Bibliography: © Barron's Educational Services, Inc. 1995, based on The Food Lover's Companion, second edition, by Sharon Tyler Herbst.


Fun Food Quote:

"One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well."

– Virginia Woolf



THIS MONTH AT THE



Griffith Observatory

Feb. 24
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
FREE!

Sunset Walk

The Observatory offers a sunset hike led by a Park Ranger and a museum guide. The hike starts on the Observatory's West Terrace, proceeds up the Charlie Turner trail to the Berlin Forest on the hill just north of the Observatory, and then returns to the West Terrace. The distance covered is about half a mile over the course of an hour at a very moderate pace with stops along the way to discuss the highlights and history of Griffith Park, and objects visible in the evening sky.

Note: The Charlie Turner trail is a moderately steep earthen trail. The Observatory recommends footwear appropriate for hiking.

Information:
www.griffithobservatory.org/programs/publictelescopes.html

Support the Griffith Observatory!

Consider joining the Friends of the Observatory (FOTO)
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Zoo

Story courtesy Zoo; Photo courtesy Lula Washington Dance Theatre

The Richness of African-American Culture

Zoo's multi-faceted event is co-curated by the California African-American Museum.

The Los Angeles Zoo and Botanical Gardens observes African American History Month and the rich diversity of African-American culture with the zoo's African-American History Celebration from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 7 – 8.

The event features programming co-curated by the research library at the California African American Museum (CAAM); a vibrant array of music and dance entertainment; crafts; and animal feedings, keeper talks and up-close visits with small animals, all spotlighting animals from Africa. Selections from the museum's permanent collection will be highlighted with educational signage adjacent to related animal exhibits and landmarks. Also on hand are Ragin Cajun, Sista Soul Food and Peaches Truck food trucks offering authentic flavors.

Throughout the weekend, guests will find photographs of paintings, sculptures, masks and headdresses depicting animals displayed next to their inspirations (or similar animals) and other figurative art from CAAM's collection with information and a QR code through which to access more information. Performances by the Lula Washington Dance Theatre take place from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. both days; by Michael D. McCarty, storyteller – "Have Mouth, Will Run It!" from noon to 1 p.m. both days; by African Soul, the African dance company, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. both days; and by blues band Leo Key and the Company from 3:15 to 4 p.m. both days.

Feedings of the Zoo's hippos (including baby Rosie) take place at 12:30 p.m. both days, and keeper talks are offered at the okapi at 11 a.m. and the giraffe at 2 p.m. both days, with Animals and You stations at several spots in the Zoo providing up-close visits with small animals. Zoo guests can discover fun facts at two educational activity stations such as how many neck vertebrae a giraffe has and how a zebra's stripes provide camouflage. Youngsters can also enjoy craft projects throughout the weekend as well as craft workshops by artist Teresa Tolliver from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days.

All activities (except food purchases) are free with paid Zoo admission, which is \$19 for general admission (ages 13 to 61); \$16 for seniors (ages 62-plus), and \$14 for children (ages two to 12). No ticket is required for children under two. Admission for Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association members is free.

The California African-American Museum (CAAM) is a state agency charged with researching, collecting, preserving and interpreting for public enrichment the history, art and culture of African Americans. Collaboratively operating in partnerships with its 501(c) (3) non-profit organization Friends, the Foundation of the California African American Museum, CAAM houses a permanent collection of more than 4,000 objects of art, artifacts and historical documents, and a publicly accessible research library containing more than 20,000 volumes. CAAM hosts up to 13 exhibitions annually

A dancer from the Lula Washington Dance Theatre.



and tours several of its organized exhibitions nationally. CAAM also presents a wide variety of more than 80 annual public programs ranging from educational and curriculum-driven lectures and tours with scholars and experts to art workshops, film screening and its highly popular signature series of monthly live performances Target Sundays at CAAM. In furtherance of its value driven commitment to mentor the next generation and give back to the community, CAAM trains and employs high-school students year-round through its opportunities for school and community groups that otherwise could not afford transportation; fosters cross-issues, cross-town and cross-cultural learning and dialogue through written expression through Head are Turning, Children are Learning; and creates small business development and customer out-reach opportunities for artists through its on-site vending program.

The zoo is in Griffith Park at the junction of the Ventura (134) and Golden State (5) freeways. 5333 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027. Free parking is available. For additional information, contact (323) 644-4200 or visit www.lazoo.org

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Samsung Galaxy S5



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Sprint Discount Program savings courtesy of WSCA



Activ. Fee: \$36/line. Credit approval req. **Early Termination Fee (sprint.com/etf):** After 14 days, up to \$350/line. **SDP Discount:** Avail. for eligible company or org. employees (ongoing verification). Discount subject to change according to the company's agreement with Sprint and is avail. upon request for monthly svc charges. Discount only applies to Talk 450 and primary line on Talk Share 700; and data svc for Sprint Family Share Pack, Sprint \$60 Unlimited Plan and Unlimited, My Way plans. Not avail. with no credit check offers or Mobile Hotspot add-on. **Sprint Buyback:** Offer ends 06/30/15. Limit of 5 returned devices per active mobile number during one 12 month period, 3 per transaction. Phone must be deactivated & all personal data deleted before recycling. Device will not be returned. Credit varies depending on phone condition and valuation. Credit applied to store purchase or account within 3 invoices. Also available at sprintbuyback.com. **Other Terms:** Offers and coverage not available everywhere or for all devices/networks. Restrictions apply. See store or sprint.com for details. © 2015 Sprint. All rights reserved. Sprint and the logo are trademarks of Sprint. Other marks are the property of their respective owners.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Members Marketplace

New Ads This Month!

Updraft Range Hood: Kenmore Elite 42" w/3-setting halogen lighting in white. Sears price: \$379.99. UNOPENED & still in original packaging. \$330 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

Gas Cooktop: Frigidaire 36" in white. Sears price: \$359.99. UNOPENED & still in original packaging. \$330 OBO. Peter @ (818) 353-7074 or (818) 254-7391. 2/15

4 Cemetery Plots: Burial plots, side by side. Located in Rose Hills, City of Whittier. Open to negotiation. Cortez @ (323) 382-2405 for more info. 2/15

Ping Pong Table: 5 x 9, fold-up & roll-away, \$75. Joe @ (310) 323-4940. 2/15

Pomegranate Tree: Planted in the ground for 4 years, excellent fruit, \$25. George @ (818) 764-2091. 2/15

Baby Crib: Never used, brand new & in great condition. Delta brand, amber model #6925-204, \$130. John @ (562) 755-9462. 2/15

Kentucky Beer Recipe: Home-made, makes 15 gallons. Send \$3 cash to: Erceall Murray, P.O. Box 9252, Bakersfield, CA 93389 2/15

Moped: 150cc engine, 3 wheel, runs on 92 unleaded gas, practically new, blue color. Reduced: \$1,500. Frank @ (323) 240-3595. 2/15

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

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

Homes/Rentals/Land

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. \$1,600/mo + \$1,600 deposit. Info @ (310) 365-1868 or trferson2001@yahoo.com 12/14

For Rent: 3BD/1BA House + patio, near Western & Imperial, LA. Big back yard, 2-car garage. Has stove, refrigerator, microwave, hardwood floors, washers, dryers & outlets. Info @ (310) 534-3028. 1/14

For Rent: 2BD/1BA, den, office, kitchen w/ stove & refrigerator, large laundry room, w/ washer & dryer, C/A heat, patio. \$1,700/mo. + security \$2,000. Greg @ (626) 330-7588. 1/14

For Sale: Condo 1BD/1BA. All new paint, carpets, dishwasher, etc. Boulder City, NV. Info @ (702) 293-9554. 1/14

For Rent: Home in west Lancaster, 3BR/2BA. \$1,500/mo. Cathedral ceiling, 1844 sq/ft. Wheelchair accessibility. Gardner included. Info @ (661) 945-6571. 10/14

For Rent: Lower 2BD/2BA, 4-unit building. X-Ig living & dining room w/new marble & ceramic floors in kitchen, bathrooms, laundry room & 2nd bedroom. Hardwood floors master bedroom, built-in stove, DW, new ceiling fans & walk-in closets. Laundry room WD hookup. 2 enclosed patios w/ lights & outlets. Main hallway w/new laminate floors. \$1,875. Gail Brown @ (323) 313-3231. 9/14

For Sale: 3BD/2BA, upgraded 2001 sq. ft. house in age-restricted Rancho Resort in Sahuarita, Arizona, which is 17 miles s/o Tucson. \$175,000. Larry @ (818) 883-5870. 9/14

For Rent: Condo in Lancaster, 2BD/2BA, living rm, kitchen, 2 balconies, appliances included, stack washer/dryer, fridge, gas stove & dishwasher. Water included, no pets. \$1,000/mo + security. Maria @ (661) 236-8534 or martnz57365@yahoo.com 8/14

For Rent: Great 3BD/2BA house in north San Bernardino! Near CSUSB. Newly remodeled w/ huge yard. W/D hook-ups in garage. \$1,515/mo. Ask about available discounts. Marjorie @ (424) 302-7655. 8/14

For Rent: Great 3BD/1BA house in quaint town of Redlands. Completely remodeled w/ huge yard, newly re-seeded. \$1,399/mo. Ask about available discounts. Marjorie @ (424) 302-7655. 8/14

For Sale: "Fly-fish in your own backyard." 200' of river-front property in Clark Fork, Idaho. 3BD/3BA, 3,316 sq ft, built in 1990, 1.34 acres. (1 hour N. of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho) MLS#20131371: Clark Fork. \$499,900. Margie Stevens @ (208) 290-5666. 8/14

For Rent: Home in Ontario 3BD/2BA. Family room, water & gardener included in price. \$1,795/mo. Info @ (714) 840-1390, email: rogquin@aol.com 8/14

For Rent: 2BD/1BA, no pets, \$1,700/mo + sec. dep. \$1,000. Leimert Park: 4257 Garthwaite Blvd, 90008. Renovated, hardwood floors, quiet neighborhood, washer & dryer hookups. Info @ (310) 365-1868. 7/14

For Rent: 2BD/1BA, no pets, \$1,700/mo + sec. dep. \$1,000. Leimert Park: 4257 Garthwaite Blvd, 90008. Renovated, hardwood floors, quiet neighborhood, washer & dryer hookups. Info @ (310) 365-1868. 7/14

Household Items

Drying Center: Like new, white Maytag 2-in-1 Neptune w/lower tumble drum (7 cu. ft. capacity) & hanging/flat laying upper dryer 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

Washer/Dryer: Maytag, electric, 6 yrs old, very good cond. \$200. Responsible for own pick-up. Della @ (323) 202-3302, msmkamix6233@yahoo.com 1/14

TV: Hitachi 57", good condition, furniture piece. \$300 OBO. Kevin @ (626) 786-3078. 1/14

Washer & Dryer: Whirlpool, electric, less than 8 months old, like new, includes manual & instructions. \$800. Responsible for own pick up. Email: lilpebbly14@gmail.com 7/14

AbDuctor: Rarely used, \$100. Tanya @ (310) 713-0244, located in Corona, CA. 4/14

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

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

Miscellaneous

Sewing Machine: Antique Sears Kenmore model 1410 zigzag machine in excellent condition. Cabinet- fair condition. \$65 OBO. Ken @ (818) 770-9580. 1/15

Wedding Dress: Kenneth Winston 1530, size 14. Dress was a hit at my wedding, simply beautiful. \$850 (retail \$1,500) & will throw in mantilla veil & tiara. Dry cleaned & looks like new. Mirna @ (213) 248-6878, call or text. 1/14

Musical Items: Casiotone 401 keyboard, foot pedal, instruction manual, \$200. 14 preset sounds (piano, organ, etc), 16 preset rhythms (mambo, waltz, etc). Specs online. Frances @ (310) 324-3117. 1/14

Beauty Products: ELEMIS SpaHome, two 3.4oz body oil & 5 boxes 10.6oz cellulox herbal bath synergy body performance. All for \$900 cash. Retailers over \$1,500. Lourdes @ (661) 251-0871. 10/14

Campers Wanted: Looking for fellow active & retired city employees that like to go on mini, 3-day weekend camping trips. Email Susan: wombaty56@gmail.com 8/14

Beer Steins: From 1978-2002, \$25 each. Info @ (805) 227-2866. 7/14

Motorcycle Touring Jacket: Men's, Reima Cycloak, Kevlar & Goretex materials, removable liner, barely used, looks new. Paid \$400, sell \$225. Curtis Shapiro @ (310) 508-6465. 6/14

Wine Glasses: Lead crystal, wine goblet style. Large \$15; small \$10. Have 4-large & 4-small. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 6/14

Wine Glasses: 10-large crystal, \$5 each. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 6/14

Noritaki China Set: Etienne pattern, 45 pieces. \$500 OBO. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 6/14

Sargo China Set: Chrisma pattern, 4 place settings + side pieces. 45 pieces. \$250 OBO. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 6/14

Sewing Machine: Antique Kenmore in cabinet, needs refurbishing. \$75 OBO. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 6/14

Shannon Crystal: Godinger, large cut glass punch bowl, matching 8 cups & silver ladle. \$35 OBO. Jan @ (310) 347-1203. 6/14

Books: "Dream Killers" by Jullian Stine. Horror/Erotica themed fiction. \$20 each book. Contact jstine90503@gmail.com or (310) 409-5653. 6/14

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

Travel/Timeshare

Timeshare: Welks Resort, San Diego, CA. For Sale. \$20K. Chermaine @ (661) 547-6707. 1/15

Timeshare: For sale or rent. 1BD, Palm Springs, CA, deeded float week anytime during the year, can be exchanged for another resort worldwide. Info @ (310) 329-0682 or e-mail: time31011@yahoo.com 7/14

Vacation Rental: Palace Resorts All Inclusive: Cancun, Riviera Maya, Isla Mujeres, Cozumel-exclusive member service & treatment. VisitPalaceResorts.com to view various resorts/amenities. Price is for 1 week, 2 persons, any day travel & includes airport transpo, massages & 2 tours. Price varies by season. John @ (626) 757-5341 or jgonzlez@hotmail.com 3/14

Timeshare: Orlando, FL: Marriott Lakeshore Reserve. 1BD/1BA villa, sleeps 4. Spa/golf privileges at JW Marriott & Ritz Carlton. June 28 - July 5, 2014. \$1,600. Jessalyn Pinder @ (323) 893-6570. 12/13

Transport

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

1973 AMC Hornet: 2-door sedan, automatic, 258-6cylinder w/2bbl carb., Power steering, power brakes. Runs, needs some work, \$700 OBO, sold as is. J.R. Wright @ (562) 926-5450. 10/14

1959 Buick Invicta: Fully restored, 4 door asking \$25,000. Located in Tehachapi. For more pictures & info: 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

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

1939 Buick 90 L Model Classic Car: 8 passenger limo. Buick only built 543 of this model. Needs to be completely restored, straight 8 cylinder engine. \$6,800 OBO. Located in Tehachapi. For more pictures, email: drewlu24@aol.com. 8/14

5th Wheel Trailer: 2010 Cougar High Country, excellent condition. Sleeps 4. Slide out, awnings & full bath. All accessories & new 5th wheel hitch can be towed by 1/2 ton truck, it's ready to go. \$32,000 or TOP. Ken Hawkes @ (310) 505-5733. 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. 8/14

1976 Datsun 280Z: Runs good. Needs TLC. \$2,000. Pics available. William @ (626) 607-7989. 3/14

2005 Pace Carrier Trailer: Good for hauling, camping gear, motorcycles, furniture. 5 ft. wide x 8 ft. long. \$1,600. Alex Serna @ (818) 235-6566. 3/14

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

1967 Chevy Nova: 327 Cu in, Muncie 4-speed, Holley 650 carb, newer interior, carpets, stereo w/mp3, 2-tone paint. Red/silver + much more. \$21,000 OBO. Mike Lee @ (714) 390-6889. 2/14

Harley Davidson '07 Road King: Approx 39k miles, services up to date. Reduced price! \$11,900. Sapphire blue, locking cases, detachable windshield, studded black leather seat. Clean title, no drops/ no TC's, excellent condition, 1 owner, always garaged. Sandra @ (323) 422-6019. 1/14

2004 Chevy Dually Crewcab: Diesel, 95,000 mi. \$16,000. Dirk Clark @ (818) 326-1076. 1/14

Cemetery Plots

Cemetery Plot: Inglewood Cemetery, Sunset Mission Mausoleum, Sanctuary of Grace, 243 Double Capacity Crypt Tier-3, \$8,000. Dennis @ (661) 433-1912. 1/15

Cemetery Plot: Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA 90601, in Carnation Lawn, grave #2, lot 2709. \$2,500 OBO + transfer fee. Rosie P. @ (323) 578-9236 after 4pm. 1/14

2 Cemetery Plots: Side-by-side, Rose Hills Memorial Park, Whittier, CA 90601, in Garden of Affection; graves 1-2, Lot 4063; sale price \$4,900 OBO + transfer fees for both. Rosie P. @ (323) 578-9236 after 4pm. 1/14

Cemetery Plot: Live Oak Cemetery, Monrovia. Lot 5670, space A2, Garden of Victory, \$2,000. Frank @ (323) 240-3595. 1/14

Cemetery Plot: Contentment Hillside section of Forest Lawn, Hollywood Hills, 1 plot, \$3,250. Maria @ (310) 518-2996. 1/17

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. 1/14

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. 1/14

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

2 Cemetery Plots: Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills, Churchyard. Lot 4149, graves 1 & 2, prime location. \$6,700 each. Carolyn @ (805) 461-1282 or noslozin@charter.net 8/14

Companion Lawn Crypt w/Vault: Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills (Court of Remembrance, 1731 A+B) 14K OBO. Christine @ (805) 304-8509 or Dcbbnahaku@aol.com. 8/14

Furniture

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

Mattress: Beauty Rest Black (Alexia) queen size, extra firm, new. \$1,000 OBO. Info @ (323) 754-8382, drhenry@yahoo.com 1/14

Table Set: With leaf & 4 chairs. \$300 OBO, great condition! Valerie @ (951) 315-3920. 1/14

Hutch & Cabinet: Touch light, matching set \$500 OBO, great condition! Valerie @ (951) 315-3920. 1/14

Dinette Set: 9 piece, dark brown oakwood w/ matching leather chairs & leaf for extension. \$2,500. Parker @ (562) 612-6567. 8/14

Solid wood large dining table: \$300. Ben @ (213) 484-2682. 3/14

CLASSIFIED ADS
\$50
 per month
FREE
 for Club Members!

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

Email your ad (and picture) to **classifieds@cityemployeesclub.com** or you can fax your ad to (213) 620-0598

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

Classified Submission Deadline:
2/15/2015
 for publication in the March issue of *Alive!*

Palm Springs Condo: In beautiful Palm Springs Villas II, gated community, 7 swimming pools, tennis court, shuffle board; near shopping, restaurants & Casino Spa Resort. Weekly & weekend rentals, \$140 per night. Info @ (562) 301-2940. 5/13

Vacation Rental: Boulder City, located btwn Las Vegas & Lake Mead Recreation area. Cottage in Historic district: Sleeps 6, 1/BD & queen sofa bed in lvng rm + 2 built-in bunk beds. Walking distance to restaurants, antique shops, etc. Built in 1942, previously owned by DWP. \$500/week or \$100/day. Norma @ (323) 333-2238 or e-mail: Norma2go2@gmail.com 4/13

Timeshare: Cancun Sunset Club, 1 week, studio sleeps 4, resort on the beach, \$700/week. Serious renters will receive all-inclusive meals. Not available New Years, July 4th, Thanksgiving or Christmas. Gina @ (818) 395-3552. 4/13

Timeshare For Sale: Ventura, CA. Ocean view. Deeded float week. Sleeps 4. Many amenities, incl elevator. 60 miles north of L.A. Elderly owner must sell. \$1,800. Leave message @ (503) 722-9881. 3/13

Vacation rental in Big Bear Lake: 3 BD/2 BA house located in the village of Big Bear Lake, CA, near the lake. Fully furnished. Contact John Long @ (909) 837-8347. 3/13

Timeshare: Kona Hawaiian Village, Big Island. 2BD/1 week anytime during the year, resort on the beach. Serious buyers. Info @ (310) 415-7388. 2/13

Wanted
Exchange Wanted: Will care for an elderly person in exchange for private room! Experienced assistant will help elderly person by providing light housekeeping, shopping, driving & companionship. Excellent references, prefers Pasadena area. Karen Hysell @ (626) 252-1288. 6/14

Wanted: I buy all kinds of collectibles: crystal, Disney, fishing gear, military items, musical instruments, pocket knives, gold & silver, Radko, WDCC. Michael @ (626) 592-2929. 11/12



discount tickets available at LA City Employees Club

february movie releases

- THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE: SPONGE OUT OF WATER (3D) – 2/6
- SEVENTH SON (IMAX/3D) – 2/6
- JUPITER ASCENDING (IMAX/3D) – 2/6
- KINGSMAN: THE SECRET SERVICE – 2/13
- FIFTY SHADES OF GREY – 2/13
- MC FARLAND, USA – 2/20
- THE DUFF – 2/20
- HOT TUB TIME MACHINE 2 – 2/20
- FOCUS – 2/27
- LITTLE BOY – 2/27
- THE LAZARUS EFFECT – 2/27



Help Us Blanket the City

During the cold winter months, help the Club take care of those living on the streets.

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

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

So they hatched a plan: pass out blankets those living on the streets downtown. To *Blanket the City*. That first night, they gave away eight blankets. That was just a start.

And now, *Blanket the City* has become an

official part of Club Angels, the Club's charitable outreach. During the winter months, the Club will be handing out military-grade blankets to those who really need them.

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

Join the effort! Here's how:

- The military-grade blankets cost \$7 each.
- Contribute what you can, and the Club will purchase blankets and hand them out for you.
- Need more info? Contact John Hawkins or Angel Gomez, and we'll take it from there:
jhawkins@cityemployeesclub.com or
agomez@cityemployeesclub.com



Blanket the City

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

CREATIVE
FORCE
SOLUTIONS



Send this completed form to:
Club Angels
311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300
Los Angeles, CA 90013

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

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

Name

Home Street Address

City State Zip

Home Phone Work Phone

Club Member Number (if you are a member):

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

Your donations will be acknowledged with official letters of receipt.

THE Club Store

To place an order visit us at:
WWW.CITYEMPLOYEESCLUB.COM

Theatre Tickets

	RETAIL PRICE	CLUB PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
AMC				
Good Any Time:		Available 24/7! \$14.00	\$8.00	Available as E-Tickets!
Small Popcorn	\$5.50	\$3.00		
Small Drink	\$4.50	\$3.00		
Movie Bundle	\$42.00	\$25.00		
<small>Includes 2 unrestricted movie passes, 2 small drink concessions and 1 small popcorn concession.</small>				
California Science Center IMAX Expires 12/28/2015				
Adult	\$ 8.25	\$5.75		
Child	\$ 5.00	\$4.25		
Cinemark Theatres – Good Any Time Available 24/7!				
<small>Cinemark tickets are good at Century Theaters.</small>				
Galaxy Theatres – Good Any Time \$11.00 \$8.00				
Harkins Movie Theatres				
Restricted	\$10.00	\$6.50		
Good Any Time	\$10.00	\$7.50		
Krikorian Theatres – Good Any Time \$12.00 \$7.50				
Laemmle Theatres – Good Any Time \$11.00 \$6.00				
Landmark Theaters – Good Any Time \$13.00 \$8.00				
<small>\$1.50 surcharge for use at West LA; \$2.50 for 3-D.</small>				
Pacific Theatres				
Restricted	\$13.75	\$8.00		
<small>\$2 surcharge for use at Americana: Glendale and at The Grove, not valid at Arclight.</small>				
Regal/Edwards Cinema/United Artists				
<small>These Regal/Edwards/United Artists cinemas will add a surcharge at the location for all shows: Edwards Canyon Country: \$1 Edwards Valencia Stadium 10: \$1 Island Stadium 7 (Newport Beach): \$6 *Surcharges are determined by Edwards and are subject to change. The City Employees Club has no control over these surcharges.</small>				
Restricted	\$14.75	\$7.00		
Good Any Time: Available as an E-ticket through our website.	Available 24/7! \$14.75	\$8.00		Available as E-Tickets!
Movie Pack*: Includes 2 unrestricted ultimate movie tickets and a \$10 concessions gift card.	\$30.00	\$25.00		
Regency Theatres – Good Any Time \$11.50 \$7.00				
UltraStar Cinemas – Good Any Time \$11.25 \$6.00				
<small>Tickets can be upgraded for 3-D, IMAX, or ETX.</small>				

Attraction Tickets

Adventure City				
Adult/Child	\$16.95	\$12.50		
Aquarium of the Bay – San Francisco Available 24/7!				
Adult	\$19.95	\$15.96		Available as E-Tickets!
Child (4-12)	\$11.95	\$9.56		
Aquarium of the Pacific				
Adult	\$28.95	\$17.95		Available as E-Tickets!
Child (3-11)	\$14.95	\$10.95		
Boomer's Family Fun Centers – California Available 24/7!				
All Day Pass (CA locations only)	\$30.99	\$17.00		Available as E-Tickets!
Catalina Expires 12/31/2015: not valid 5/23-25, 7/3-5, 9/5-7 Available 24/7!				
Island Express – Round Trip	Adult \$76.50	\$62.00		Available as E-Tickets!
	Child \$61.00	\$52.50		
Davey's Locker				
Whale Watching	Buy 1 Get 1 FREE Adult \$32.00	\$21.00		
	Child \$26.00	\$17.00		
Sportfishing – 1/2 Day	Adult \$46.50	\$30.25		
	Child \$39.00	\$25.75		
Sportfishing – 3/4 Day	Adult \$71.00	\$56.25		
	Child \$61.00	\$47.75		
Discovery Science Center Available 24/7!				
Adult	\$15.95	\$12.00		Available as E-Tickets!
Child (3-11)	\$12.95	\$10.00		
Disneyland/California Adventure Expires 12/31/2015				
1-Day, 1-Park	Adult \$96.00	\$92.16		
	Child (3-9) \$90.00	\$86.40		
1-Day Park Hopper	Adult \$150.00	\$138.00		
	Child (3-9) \$144.00	\$132.48		
2-Day, 1-Park	Adult \$178.00	\$161.98		
	Child (3-9) \$165.00	\$150.15		Available as E-Tickets!
2-Day Park Hopper	Adult \$217.00	\$197.47		
	Child (3-9) \$204.00	\$185.64		Please go to cityemployeesclub.com
3-Day, 4-Day and 5-Day: 1-Park and Park Hoppers <small>Go to cityemployeesclub.com for details and prices.</small>				
SoCal Select Annual Passport	\$289.00	\$274.55		
<small>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2015. Valid 170 days.</small>				
Deluxe Annual Passport	\$519.00	\$493.05		
<small>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2015. Valid 315 days.</small>				
Premium Annual Passport w/Parking	\$699.00	\$664.05		
<small>Valid 1 year from date of activation. Must be activated before 12/31/2015. No blackout dates.</small>				
SoCal Resident: 2-Day/1-Park *	\$139.00	\$129.27		
SoCal Resident: 2-Day Hopper *	\$178.00	\$165.54		
SoCal Resident: 3-Day/1-Park *	\$169.00	\$157.17		Available as E-Tickets!
SoCal Resident: 3-Day Hopper *	\$208.00	\$193.44		
<small>* SoCal Resident deals only! Restrictions apply, visit www.cityemployeesclub.com for important details! Valid until 5/14/15; blackout dates: 3/20/15 – 4/4/15.</small>				
Golf N' Stuff				
3 Hour Unlimited Wristband: Norwalk location	\$30.00	\$16.25		
All Park Pass: Ventura location	\$20.00	\$15.25		
K1 Speed Racing				
Admit one, minimum height requirement 4'10"	\$25.95	\$15.25		
<small>This pass entitles the owner to one 14 Lap race and a annual license for the day.</small>				
Knott's Berry Farm Expires 12/31/2015				
Adult	\$65.00	\$37.00		
Child (3-11); Senior (62+)	\$35.00	\$30.00		Available as E-Tickets!
E-Ticket <small>Better price than hard stock available at Club Store!</small>	Adult \$34.00	Senior \$29.00		Available 24/7!



	RETAIL PRICE	CLUB PRICE	QUANTITY	
Attraction Tickets, continued				
LA Zoo				
Adult	\$19.00	\$16.00		
Child (2-12)	\$14.00	\$13.00		
Legoland Expires 12/31/2015				
1-Day, 1-Park	Adult \$85.00	\$70.00		
<small>Get 2nd day free, to be used within 90 days of 1st visit.</small>				
	Child (3-11) \$79.00	\$65.00		
Legoland Resort Hopper*	Adult \$109.00	\$75.00		
	Child (3-11) \$103.00	\$70.00	Available as E-Tickets!	
<small>Includes admission to Legoland, Sea Life Aquarium and waterpark. Get 2nd day free, to be used before 12/31/2015. * Water Park is open seasonally and requires same day visit to Legoland.</small>				
Legoland – Florida	Available 24/7!		Visit www.cityemployeesclub.com for pricing	
Madame Tussauds Wax Attraction Expires 1/31/2016 Available 24/7!				
<small>All Access Pass includes Marvel Super Heroes 4D Experience.</small>				
Adult	\$40.00	\$14.00	Available as E-Tickets!	
Child (4-12)	\$35.00	\$11.00		
Magic Mountain Expires 9/28/2015				
General Admission	\$69.99	\$41.99		
Medieval Times Not valid 12/31/2015 Available 24/7!				
Adult	\$57.95	\$43.50	Available as E-Tickets!	
Child (0-12)	\$35.95	\$31.50		
Mulligan's Family Fun Center				
All Day Pass	Adult/Child \$27.99	\$16.50		
<small>Restrictions: Pass gives 1 Adult or Child unlimited use of Laser Tag, Miniature Golfing, Go-Karts/Speedway & the Rock Wall. This ticket is valid Friday, Saturday & Sunday, major holidays & everyday during the summer. Attractions vary per location. Certain height, weight, restrictions apply. This ticket is accepted at Mulligan Torrance, Murrieta, and Palmdale.</small>				
Gift Certificate	\$15.00	\$10.25		
Pirates Dinner Adventure Expires 11/30/2015				
Adult	\$56.95	\$36.00		
Child	\$37.95	\$27.50		
Queen Mary Available 24/7!				
Adult	\$24.95	\$20.25	Available as E-Tickets!	
Child (4-11)	\$21.95	\$12.25		
Racers Edge Indoor Karting				
Adult: 16-Lap Adult Race	\$23.00	\$18.00		
Junior (50" tall): 11-Lap Junior Race	\$20.00	\$15.00		
San Diego Zoo & San Diego Safari Park				
Adult	\$48.00	\$39.25		
Child (3-11)	\$38.00	\$31.25	Available as E-Tickets!	
2-Visit Pass *	Adult \$86.00	\$68.75		
	Child (3-11) \$66.00	\$52.75		
<small>* May be used for one visit at each park or 2 visits to the same park.</small>				
Santa Monica Pier & Pacific Park Expires 12/31/2015 Available 24/7!				
Unlimited Wristband	\$25.95	\$13.50	Available as E-Tickets!	
Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk Combo Pack Available 24/7!				
Coming Soon				
General Admission	\$40.95	\$32.95	Available as E-Tickets!	
<small>Ticket includes All-Day Ride Wristband, 2 Attraction Tickets (Choose from Vault Lazer Maze, Mini Golf, Laser Tag, Bowling including shoes, Climb N Conquer or Fright Walk) PLUS \$3 in Arcade Play with a rechargeable card!</small>				
Sea World – San Diego Expires 12/13/2015				
Adult	\$84.00	\$60.00		
Child (3-9)	\$78.00	\$60.00	Available as E-Tickets!	
Fun Card	\$84.00	\$74.00		
Six Flags Discovery Kingdom – Vallejo Available 24/7!				
General Admission (over 48")	\$62.99	\$29.99	Available as E-Tickets!	
Speedzone Available 24/7!				
3 Hour Unlimited Pass <small>Unlimited use of rides and Mini-golf.</small>	\$49.99	\$25.00	Available as E-Tickets!	
Universal Studios Expires 3/31/2015 Available 24/7!				
Buy 1-Day: Get 2-Days Free!	Adult/Child (under 48")	\$92.00	\$79.00	Available as E-Tickets!

Gift Certificates

Honeybaked Ham			
\$25 Gift Card	\$25.00	\$22.50	
See's Candies			
Gift Certificate (1 lb.)	\$18.50	\$14.25	

Shipping & Handling

Tax (only applicable to all merchandise, not on tickets)	x	9%	= \$
Tickets: First class mail (with insurance)	x	1	= \$
Tickets: Certified mail (with insurance)	x	1	= \$
Tickets: Priority Mail (with insurance)	x	1	= \$
Hats, Watches, Clothing, etc. (all merchandise)	\$7.50	(any quantity)	= \$

To order discount tickets, visit us at www.cityemployeesclub.com

To order by Phone: Call (888) 777-1744

– Please be aware that black-out dates and restrictions may apply to the use of discounted tickets.

- ALL TICKETS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. PRICES MAY CHANGE.
- DO NOT SEND CASH – ALL SALES ARE FINAL – NO REFUNDS.
- All checks and credit cards have to be issued by the member. Third party checks and credit cards will not be accepted.
- When visiting Club offices, only the first 15-minutes of parking will be validated.
- Tickets must be mailed to your home address.
- City Employees Club of Los Angeles cannot be held responsible for money or tickets lost in the mail.
- For your convenience, the Club accepts VISA or MasterCard.
- **Maximum 12 tickets per event/theatre/attraction per order.**
- Allow 3 to 7 days for delivery.



FALEO-LA Board Members.

FALEO

Story by Jeanette Gadut, Club Counselor



Supporting the Next Generation

Filipino American law enforcement group hosts first scholarship fundraiser.

On Nov. 15, the Filipino American Law Enforcement Officers Association – Los Angeles Chapter (FALEO – LA) held its first scholarship dinner and fundraiser at the Carson Community Center. It was a successful night filled with special guests, awards and entertainment. Members from chapters as far away as San Francisco and San Diego came to support. Guests were able to socialize with one another, enjoy traditional Filipino desserts and snacks, and take part in the silent auction before the ceremony began.

The night was hosted by Rembrandt Solis. Cultural awareness, family, education, and hard work were among the themes in the speeches given by guest speaker, State Sen. Tony Mendoza; keynote speaker, Asst. Chief Cesar Solis, San Diego Police Dept. (retired); and award recipients. Newly elected LA County Sheriff Jim McDonnell, Club Member, was also in attendance and gave an inspirational speech to the audience as well.

FALEO-LA honored law enforcement officers Christian Buado, Christian Costales and Ryan Mullany for their successful leadership in the communities they protect and serve. College students Brian Lee Guevarra and Fatima Bailon were recognized for their academic excellence and pursuit of careers in law enforcement. Following the awards ceremony was a martial arts demonstration by Richard Bustillo and the IMB team, and entertainment was provided by the Filipino Comedy Tour, headlined by Joey Guila.

FALEO-LA's Scholarship Dinner and Fundraiser was a night to remember. Guests were already looking forward to the next one!



Keynote speaker Cesar Solis, Asst. Chief, San Diego Police Dept., Retired.



Host Rembrandt Solis and his wife.



LA County Sheriff Jim McDonnell.



Guests from the San Francisco chapter.



Carson Mayor Jim Dear.



A martial arts demonstration.



Rene Galano, Club Member, and family.



Basketball player Kobe Para and his fans.



Scholarship award recipient Brian Lee Guevara.



Scholarship award recipient Fatima Bailon.



Comedian Joey Guila.



Board Member Arldwin Flores, Club Member.



Law enforcement guests.



Kababayan Spirit Award recipient Christian Costales, Club Member.



Kababayan Spirit Award recipient Ryan Mullany, Club Member.



At the fundraiser.



At the fundraiser.



At the fundraiser.



At the fundraiser.

CLUB SPORTS

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



Basketball Signups Open

Registration is now open for the 2015 Winter/Spring Club Basketball season.

- Games will be played Thursday nights at 7, 8 and 9 p.m. at the Expo Center.
- The Club needs at least six teams to create a league. Join today!



For more information on basketball signups:

Contact the Sports Dude at (800) 464-0452 x 134, or via email sportsdude@cityemployeesclub.com

City Employees Club Store

Your Official City and DWP Merchandise Headquarters

Free
STANDARD
SHIPPING
on all orders



City Employees Club Store
120 W. 2nd St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
FREE Validated Parking at Joe's Parking Structure

FEBRUARY Member Specials

New Product



13 oz Belgian Beer Glass

\$8 Member \$10.75 Non-Member



\$6.50 Member \$8.60 Non-Member

City Seal 1.5 oz Shot Glass

Available in Blue only



\$5 Member \$6.75 Non-Member

City Seal Retractable Badge Holder

Heavy duty retractor

NEW



\$24.50 Member \$32.60 Non-Member

Small Vintage Backpacks

Available in 3 colors



\$32 Member \$42 Non-Member

Classic Messenger Bags

Available in multiple colors



\$11 Member \$16 Non-Member

Stainless Steel Water Bottle

Light weight and sturdy



\$7.00 Member \$12.00 Non-Member

Infuser Water Bottle

Available in multiple colors



\$10 Member \$14 Non-Member

Men's City Classic T-Shirt

Available in various colors



\$15.00 Member \$19.50 Non-Member

Men's Long Sleeve Shirts

Available in various colors



\$24.99 Member \$33.25 Non-Member

French Terry Full Zip Hoodie

Available in multiple colors



\$8 Member \$11 Non-Member

City Seal Cap with Script

Available in various colors



\$14.00 Member \$20.00 Non-Member

City Classic Women's T-Shirt

Available in various colors



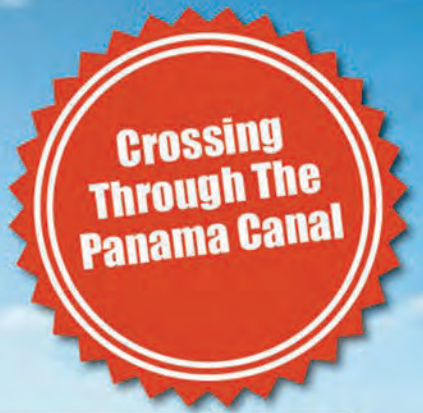
\$25.99 Member \$34.99 Non-Member

City Seal Women's Polo

Available in various colors



**More Product Selections at
CityEmployeesClub.com**



CLUB CRUISE

South American Adventure

★ DEPARTING DECEMBER 5, 2015 ★
FROM FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

CLUB CRUISE SPECIAL

15 Night South American Cruise Starting From \$1,179 Per Person*

▶ **Get a \$1,000 Airfare allowance when you place a \$900 deposit for each cabin made by 2/27/15 at 4:30pm.**

- Sail Date: Saturday, Dec 5, 2015
- Departure Port: Fort Lauderdale, FL
- Disembark: Valparaiso, Chile
- 15-Night Cruise

-
- * • Based on double occupancy.
 - Does not include airfare.
 - Additional \$355.40 per person for taxes, fees, and port expenses will be applied.

SOUTH AMERICAN DESTINATIONS

PORT OF DEPARTURE: ● PORT OF CALL: ● CRUISE ROUTE: —

From Fort Lauderdale, Florida sailing to: Cartagena, Colombia; Colon, Panama; Panama Canal, Panama; Manta, Ecuador; Lima, Peru; Arica, Chile; Valparaiso, Chile

Payroll Deduction Available!

Payroll deduction currently not available to LAUSD, State, County Club Members.



MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
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aherrero@cityemployeesclub.com