

Serving More Than 50,000 Members



Alive!

Be Honored. Be Celebrated. Be Thanked.

THE CLUB

ALWAYS DO RIGHT

The Club and partner representatives from Aflac and Employer's First Choice sign the landmark Code of Conduct and Ethics – a vow of service excellence for Club Members.



*'Today we are pledging trust,
purpose and a shared commitment
of excellence to those we serve.'*

– Robert Larios

Club staff and partner representatives, from left: Oscar Fregoso, Andres Trujillo and Steven Hanson, representing Aflac; Robert Larios, Club CEO; and Alex Mattis and Dante Willerton, representing Employer's First Choice.

Alive! photo by Summy Lam



Celebrating the work and lives of public employees.

Employees Club of California
311 South Spring Street, Suite 1300
Los Angeles, CA 90013

SERVING
PUBLIC
EMPLOYEES
SINCE 1928

Sea-ing Is Believing



Members pay only
\$39.45 (adult admis-
sion) at Aquarium
of the Pacific!

www.employeesclub.com





**WE'RE CELEBRATING
YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE**

**CLUB MEMBER
RETIREMENT
PLAQUE**

FREE TO CLUB MEMBERS:
with 5+ years of membership.
(Valued at \$499)

Details and eligibility online



GET YOURS
EmployeesClub.com

United We Serve

What you see in the photo this month is intentional: togetherness.

When representatives of Club partners Aflac, our insurance carrier, and Employer's First Choice, our customer service partner throughout California, joined our staff May 29 at Club Headquarters, the occasion marked a significant milestone in our promise to you, our Members. We commit to you as one group, with one unified message.

The development and signing of this landmark Code of Conduct and Ethics, which you can read all about in our cover story this month, matter to us. By putting it in writing, we take our commitment to you to an even more profound level. Those smiles in the photo show you just how proud we are of making this commitment. How we treat you, our Members, reigns supreme.

We don't often focus on internal Club happenings in our *Alive!* cover story. You are our heroes, and we are privileged to feature you on our covers regularly. But our story this month could not be less internal, as I see it. Honoring you with this renewed recommitment of good conduct and ethics is why the Club works hard every day to provide you with specially priced insurance products, tens of thousands of deals for your family, a claims service that takes care of you in your difficult



Representatives of Club partners Aflac and Employer's First Choice celebrate the signing of the Code of Conduct and Ethics with Club CEO Robert Larios (center).

moments, the Retirees Society, and so on. You deserve this renewed commitment. You are why we made it.

Please take our commit to heart, and know that, together, we mean every word we have written.

Shipping Your Plaques

Another milestone: In addition to the many hundreds of handsome Retiree Plaques we have presented to Retirees in person, we have now surpassed 100 plaques shipped to Retirees who were not able to attend one of

ROBERT'S BLOG

by Robert Larios, CEO, The Club



our wonderful ceremonies. The plaques are one of the best Club benefits that our Retired Members can receive. If you prefer that option, please let us know you prefer that option when you sign up to receive your Retirement Plaque. (But please attend a ceremony if you can so we can honor you in person.) Sign up if you are eligible. See page 8.

Worth Considering

True confidence is all about trusting yourself and recognizing that your value isn't determined by what other people think. It comes from a deep sense of self-respect and inner peace that stays with you no matter where you are or who's watching.

Enjoy the gorgeous days of summer!

¡Gracias por leer!

Robert Larios
CEO

At a recent Mobile Team site visit.



Monthly Anchors:

North Central Sanitation
452 N. San Fernando Rd.,
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
The first Monday of every month:
Mon., July 7

Van Nuys City Hall
6262 Van Nuys Blvd.,
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
The first Tuesday of every month:
Tues., July 1

Harbor
100 W. Fifth St.,
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
The first Wednesday of every month:
Wed., July 2

East Valley Sanitation – New!
11050 Pendleton St.,
6 – 10 a.m.
The second Tuesday of every month:
Tues., July 8

North Hollywood StreetsLA
10811 Chandler Blvd.,
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
The second Thursday of every month:
Thurs., July 10

City Hall Farmers Market
201 N. Main St.,
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
The last Wednesday of every month:
Wed., July 30

Raise employee morale! Schedule a Club Mobile visit!

The Club Mobile Team will bring benefits experts and Club legendary apparel for purchase at low prices (hats custom-made on site). It's one of the best ways for staff to feel appreciated. Your employees will be grateful!

To schedule a Club Mobile visit:

Scan the Code to Schedule a Visit
Or contact Lupe Lira, Director of Retail and Ecommerce: (213) 819-0350, or mobile@employeesclub.com



ATTENTION Raise employee morale!
SUPERVISORS: Bring the Club to your worksite!

Club Mobile is cashless!
For your convenience, now accepting major credit cards.



Follow Club social media for other days, times and locations as they are scheduled:



THE CLUB

ALWAYS DO RIGHT

PAGE 12

Alive! photo by John Burnes

COVER STORY:

The Club and partners sign landmark Code of Conduct and Ethics, setting a stellar standard of service 12-15

STORIES

Airports/Metro

At long last, the LAX Metro Transit Center opens, with more to come 8

LACERS

Fitness group enjoys their regular walk for fitness and socializing 11

Tom Moutes, former General Manager, LACERS, is elected as the Retired Commissioner on the LACERS Board of Administration. 11

LADWP

Retired Employees Association's annual Picnic held June 7 17

LAPD

Dept. celebrates National Dispatchers Week 10

Public Works

StreetsLA celebrates the installation of its 150th STAP bus shelter 8

Four prominent City veterans retired this earlier this spring 23

Public Works, LAPD

Depts. assist in the management and cleanup of the LA protests in June 21

Rec and Parks

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium presents Shark Week. 7

SECTIONS AND COLUMNS

Alive! Around the World. 21

Arlene on the Scene 21

Club Mobile Schedule. 2

Club Sports 16

Coloring Contest: Grown-up. 20

Cooking 24

Deaths: In Memoriam 22

Graduations 23

Insurance Corner 6

LACERS 11

Life's Important Moments 22-23

On the Job Photo Wall 5

Retire Ready! 9

Retirements Listing 22

Retirement Plaque Presentations. 8

Robert's Blog: From the CEO 2

Your Insurance Dollars at Work: 7



FOR RETIREES:
RLACEI Pages 18-19

More on alive.employeesclub.com:

Library Top Ten Web

Advertiser's Index

Rosebud Marketing. 7

United Agencies 7

Water and Power Community Credit Union 5

CLUBDEALS

FROM THE CLUB DEAL DESK

THEME PARKS

CLUB MEMBERS
SAVE UP TO

57%



AQUARIUM
OF THE PACIFIC®

Only \$39.45

(adult admission)

Save \$10!

Pedal Power!

Save **14%**
on Bulls
Bikes and
Pegasus
eBikes!



EMPLOYEESCLUB.COM



DISCOUNTED THEME PARK TICKETS!

Club members get amazing
discounts on tickets to Disneyland,
Universal Studios, and more.

EXPLORE YOUR SAVINGS



BUY TICKETS
EmployeesClub.com



The Club Is Here to Help

Contact the Club
if you have an event you want covered in *Alive!*
or if you have questions about insurance.
help@employeesclub.com
(800) 464-0452

Alive!

July 2025 • Volume 24 – No. 7

Alive! is the official publication of the
Employees Club of California
311 Spring St., Suite 1300
Los Angeles, CA 90013
TELEPHONE: (800) 464-0452
CONTACT US: admin@aliveemployeesclub.com

Alive! (USPS P7960) is published monthly,
12 times per year by the Employees Club of California,
311 Spring St., Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

ALIVE! EDITORIAL OFFICES:
311 Spring Street, Suite 1300,
Los Angeles CA, 90013 • (800) 464-0452

POSTAGE: Periodicals postage paid at Los Angeles, CA
and at additional mailing offices.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Annual subscription price for *Alive!*
is included in the membership dues and is nondeductible.

POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to
Alive!, Employees Club of California, 311 Spring St.,
Suite 1300, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

Alive! Staff

Robert Larios, President & CEO, *Los Angeles City Employees Association, Employees Club of California*
Noelle Kauffman, Summy Lam, *Managing Editors*
John Burnes, *Editor*

Ronald Cortez, Arlene Herrero, Guadalupe Lira, Mariana Guevara, Natalia Guevara, *Copy Editors*
David Jamgotchian, JJLA Associates, *Design and Production*

LACEA (Association) Board of Directors
Phillip Chou, *LADWP*
Jaqueline E. Koci Tamayo, *County of Santa Clara*
Carlos Rodriguez, *LADOT*
Andrew Virzi, III, *LADWP*
Capt. I Danny Wu, *LAFD*

LACEA Insurance Services (The Club) Board of Directors
Terry Carter, *LAPD, Retired*
Marilyn Holley, *Public Works: Bureau of Sanitation, Retired*
Rose Hyland, *Office of the Controller, Retired*
David Muraoka, *LAPD, Retired*
Rita Robinson-Kane, *County of LA, Retired*
Andrew Virzi Jr., *LADWP, Retired*

The opinions expressed in articles, photos, images and responses contributed to the *Alive!* newspaper and Website, video and social media by those outside the Club staff and vendors are of the contributors, and not the Club. While the Club aims to publish materials that are exceedingly enjoyable and enhancing to Membership as part of the value we return to Club Members, outside materials do not necessarily reflect those of the Club, its staff and vendors or its Members.

In addition, the Club strives to publish only those elements that are produced by the Club itself, are in the public domain, or whose rights have been negotiated.

Club Members who have questions on these points may write to: alive@employeesclub.com

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



The Club Honors Public Employees



Are You Impacted by City's Budget Squeeze?

HAVE YOU BEEN LAID OFF?
FURLOUGHED OR GIVEN REDUCED HOURS?
IMPACTED IN OTHER WAYS?

CLUB BENEFITS: The Club has your back during these uncertain times with powerful benefits and features to get you through it.

Consider:

- Some Club benefits are portable, moving with you wherever you go
- Club Cash can mean cash in a hurry
- Personalized guidance
- Club benefits can save you money on groceries, entertainment and shopping

You aren't alone. Help is as close as contacting us. We'll get right back to you:

help@employeesclub.com

Employees Club of California
Be honored. Be celebrated. Be thanked.



EXHILARATING CLUB DISCOUNTS

*Savings that will make
you scream with joy!*

CLUB MEMBER ONLY DISCOUNTS



Save 10%
after 1st five
boxes

**SAVE
20%
1st five boxes**



Online with
Discount
Code

**14%
OFF**



GATE
PRICE
\$94.99

**CLUB MEMBERS
\$56.55**



RETAIL
PRICE
\$34.95

**CLUB MEMBERS
\$24.95
Save \$10**



SAVE UP TO
**50%
Sitewide**



Coming Soon!



**THE CLUB DOES NOT CHARGE ANY
PROCESSING OR HANDLING FEES!**



**EXPLORE MORE
SAVINGS ONLINE**

Prices are subject to change without notice. Please visit the Club website for the most up to date prices.

www.EmployeesClub.com



Noelle Kauffman, Club Director of Sales

NOELLE'S ON THE JOB! PHOTO WALL



Show Off Your Work Crew! Enter and win a \$50 gift card!



Celebrate you and your work crew! Submit photos of your City of LA coworkers (with or without you) in action on the job, working or socializing at the office or yard, behind the scenes, routine or even quirky.

We'll give a \$50 gift card to the first five who submit each month.

Entry Period for July issue: July 1 – July 15, 2025



Submit your best photos online at alive.employeesclub.com/onthethejob/ Club Members only.

RETIREES: You have your own contest now!

We want to see you living your best life. See the Club's new **"Your Best Life"** photo contest on page 9.

Here are a few of sample entries. Submit your own, and you could win!

SAMPLE ENTRY



"Catching up with friends at work." With Freddy Cupen-Ames, Trinity Straw, Narcis Grasu, Jacob Brothers, Jennifer Jones, Jacqueline Cervantes, Dale Kanegawa and Brian Pak.
– **Jacqueline Cervantes, PW/Contract Administration**

SAMPLE ENTRY



This office team at LAPD/Communications had fun during their Spirit Week. Submit a photo of your work team having fun, and you could win a gift card!

SAMPLE ENTRY



From November 2015: On Daly Street, Public Works/Sanitation and Environment staff removes trash as part of Operation Clean Sweep.

Keep Cool This Summer

With Affordable
Car Loan Rates

- Low rates & flexible terms*
- No payment for 90 days
- Ask us about a discount for automatic payments



Ask us for details

Call our special hotline at 213-451-4738. Click <https://info.wpccu.org/a525c> for more details.



800-300-9728



wpccu.org



@wpccu



FEDERALLY
INSURED
BY NCUA

Water and Power Community Credit Union

* All loans are subject to credit approval. Restrictions apply. For additional loan details and 90-day deferment, please contact us. WPCCU membership required.

THE CLUB INSURANCE CORNER

Resources for Club Retirees And Those About to Retire

by Noelle Kauffman, Club Director of Sales



CA LICENSE NO: 0H45598

Injuries Happen Fast. Be Ready!

MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT ACCIDENT INSURANCE.

Imagine this: You are walking down your stairs, you trip on a loose tile and end up with a broken wrist. Now you are out of work for a week, paying for X-rays, follow-ups, and physical therapy. Health insurance may cover some of it, but what about your lost wages, deductibles, or childcare while you recover?

That's where the Club's Accident Insurance comes in.

What Is Accident Insurance?

Accident insurance is a supplemental policy that provides a lump-sum payout when you suffer a covered accidental injury. It typically covers:

- Emergency room visits
- Hospital stays
- Ambulance rides
- Fractures, sprains, dislocations
- Follow-up care like physical therapy



It is not a replacement for health insurance, but it can be used as a financial buffer to help with out-of-pocket costs when the unexpected happens.

Why It's Important

Here's why Accident Insurance through the Club is a smart idea.

- **Rising Medical Costs:** Even with good health insurance, deductibles and co-pays can add up fast.
- **Family Coverage:** Kids are accident-prone, and many policies cover dependents too.
- **Gig Workers and Contractors:** If you are not covered by workers' comp, this can provide a financial safety net.
- **Quick Payout:** Claims are paid out directly to you.

Accidents don't wait for the "right time." Whether you're a parent, a freelancer, or just someone who wants peace of mind, accident insurance is a low-cost way to protect yourself financially from life's literal slip-ups.

To learn more, email info@employeesclub.com to speak with a Club Counselor today.

Common Myths About Accident Insurance

MYTH 1:

"I Don't Need It. My Health Insurance Is Enough"

Reality: Health insurance doesn't cover lost wages, transportation or out-of-network charges.

MYTH 2:

"It's Only for Athletes or High-Risk Jobs"

Reality: Most accidents happen at home from slips, falls, burns or sports injuries in kids.

MYTH 3:

"It's Too Expensive/Complicated"

Reality: Club plans are group rated, payroll deducted, and portable if you leave the City for any reason.

MYTH 4:

"I Can't Use It If I'm Already Sick"

Reality: Accident insurance isn't based on your health history. It's designed for sudden, external injuries—not chronic illness—and is guaranteed issue.



2025 Events

LARFPA

Sept. 3 General Meeting
San Antonio Winery
737 Lamar St. downtown
Time TBA
\$40 admission

LADWP Retirees Association

None announced

Reservation information:

LADWP Retiree Association:
(213) 367-3146
LARFPA: events@larfpa.org

Contact Information

Club Retirees Dedicated Helpline:

Club Retirees Email:
help@employeesclub.com

LA City Employees Retirement System (LACERS) (City Dept.)

(800) 779-8328
lacers.services@lacers.org

LADWP Retirees Association

(213) 367-3146
activitycommittee@ladwp.com

Fire and Police Pensions (City Dept.)

(844) 885-2377
pensions@lafpp.com

LA Retired Fire and Police Association (LARFPA)

(888) 288-5073
membership@larfpa.org

Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)

See page 18

You've taken care of Los Angeles. Now let us take care of you.

To speak with a Club Counselor today, email help@employeesclub.com

Your Club Retirement Experts We're here to serve you!

Update your benefits and get all of your questions answered by booking a one on one or group presentation appointment with your colleagues at your job site.

Email help@employeesclub.com to request a Counselor visit today!

Speak to a
Club Retirement Specialist.
DO NOT WAIT!



Dalila Vielma
Member Services
Counselor



Dylan Noel
Member Services
Counselor



Cynthia Ha
Member Services
Counselor



Cheryl Martin
Member Services
Counselor

LIMITED EDITION ACADEMY PRESENTS


BOOKSHELF

by Lady Y Smith

AD: Andra Davis & Tracey Nails
Choreo: QueJonne' Cross

AUGUST 16, 2025 * 3P

GIGI RENFRO - GEORGI MCKINNEY
DEBO MCMILLER - LESLIE HENRY
CRYSTAL HARRIS - LARISSA TODD
BAILEIGH THOMAS - MARLEE FORD
ROXANNE SIMS-HARRIS - TRACEY NAILS



WILLIAM & JANE BRISTOL AUDITORIUM * 16600 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE * BELLFLOWER
DOORS OPEN 2P * SHOW 3P * WWW.LEWSIC.COM
\$25 EARLY BIRD SPECIAL at EVENTBRITE for a limited time



Sea-ing Is Believing
Members pay only \$39.45
at Aquarium of the Pacific!

employeesclub.com

Your Insurance Dollars at Work



More than
\$135 MILLION
in insurance
benefits paid!

When Members purchase insurance through the Club, they trust the insurance will help them in times of need.

When you choose insurance through the Club, you’re not just obtaining coverage but peace of mind during difficult times of need. Our claims department is here to help ensure a smooth and efficient experience throughout the claim process.

Below are the monthly amounts of claims paid back to Members. **Club insurance products will be there when you need them.**

INSURANCE PLAN	APRIL	TOTAL SINCE 1992
Life/Accidental Death and Dismemberment	\$966,049	\$77,058,609
Disability Insurance	\$132,974	\$37,854,784
Long Term Care Insurance	\$201,807	\$16,239,285
Cancer/Critical Care Insurance	\$10,450	\$5,613,050
Accident Plan	\$2,720	\$158,512
Totals	\$1,314,001	\$136,924,241

CLUB MEMBERS’ PRAISE

The Club’s claims service “was excellent. Response was prompt, with good communication.”

— James Stallworth, July 2022



Monica Zamudio
Sr. Claims Administrator



Mikayla Sprague
Claims Administrator

Trust the Club’s insurance and claims services when you need them the most. Contact a Claims Administrator today:

(800) 464-0452

Looking for Promotional Products?

Print your logo on anything:

- Pens
- Coffee mugs
- T-shirts
- Magnets
- Key Tags
- And more!



ROSEBUD Marketing Group

(800) 426-0174
rosebud@getpromos.com

www.RosebudMarketing.com

Photos courtesy Cabrillo Marine Aquarium/Shark Week



Short fin shark

Shark Week

July 13-19

2 – 5 p.m.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
3720 Stephen M White Dr, San Pedro, CA 90731

Fintastic

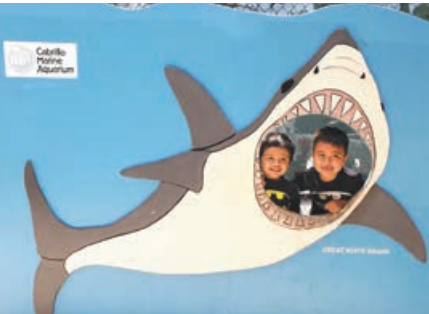
CABRILLO MARINE AQUARIUM HOSTS SHARK WEEK FEATURING THE FEARED SEA CREATURES.

REC AND PARKS: Coinciding with TV’s week of sharks, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium presents its own Shark Week from 2 to 5 p.m. July 13-19. Shark Week features special shark crafts and activities each day.

The Exploration Center invites kids of all ages to participate special shark week activities, exhibits and talks. Attendees can learn why sharks are so important for our marine eco-system and how we can help protect them from extinction.

Guests are advised to check the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium for more details.

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is at 3720 Stephen M. White Dr. in San Pedro on the shores of Cabrillo Beach and is a Rec and Parks facility with support from Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Public hours are Tuesday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m. and weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; closed Mondays. For Shark Week program schedule or further information, please call (310) 548-7562 or visit www.cabrillomarinaquarium.org.



United Agencies Inc.
INSURANCE

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

Club Members!
Save on your
Auto Insurance!

(888) 801-5522

DIRECT LINE FOR CLUB MEMBERS



Home and Auto Insurance
Services provided
for members of the
EMPLOYEES CLUB

Get a
\$50 Arco Gas Card
For Club Members
if they purchase
by July 31

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

A FREE Benefit to members of the Employees Club

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

A Grand Opening, Pt. 1

LAX METRO TRANSIT CENTER OPENS, AWAITS PEOPLE MOVER.

AIRPORTS /METRO: After decades of strategizing, LAX’s rail connection to the City was made real as the transit center officially opened for business June 6.

The transit center – built by LA County Metropolitan Transit District (Metro) with the heavy involvement of Airports and the City of Los Angeles – connects one of the world’s most important airports, LAX, to the region that surrounds it via rail.

Rail passengers still need to connect to the LAX terminals by shuttle bus as of now. But part two of the system – an automated people mover, to complete the rail connection – is scheduled to open next winter.

The Transit Center serves Metro’s C and K lines, as well as buses, shuttles, bike services and other options, providing seamless access to LAX from the Metro rail system. ●



Airport Police Officers were ready for duty on the celebratory opening day.



The LAX Metro Transit Center.



The ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the LAX Metro Transit Center included LA Mayor Karen Bass; LA County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Club Member; LA County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath; Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins; Councilmember Imelda Padilla; former LA Mayors Eric Garcetti and Antonio Villaraigosa; former Councilmembers Paul Krekorian and Mike Bonin; and others.

Stop No. 150

STREETSLA’S STAP PROGRAM MARKS ITS 150TH ADVANCED BUS SHELTER.

PUBLIC WORKS: On June 5, Public Works/StreetsLA celebrated the 150th bus shelter installed as part of its Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program (STAP). The 150th shelter was installed at the northeast corner of Olympic Boulevard and Vermont Avenue.

STAP’s progress so far:

- 150 shelters installed; 250 expected by the end of the year
- More than 20,000 riders per day use STAP shelters
- Nearly 60,000 square feet of new sidewalks repaired or replaced
- Approx. 9,000 square feet of shade provided

STAP is a high-quality, self-sustaining program that provides shelter, shade, safety and comfort with amenities that support an increased use of transit and alternative transportation, and the shared use of City sidewalks.

Well done, StreetsLA! ●



The StreetsLA team and local leaders celebrated the 150th installed bus shelter as part of its STAP program.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Beach Clean-up

Sat., Aug. 16
10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Santa Monica State Beach
Pier (Aquarium)

Hey Club Retirees! We’re teaming up with Heal the Bay for a relaxed and rewarding day at Santa Monica State Beach, and you’re invited!

We’ll bring the supplies and light snacks – you bring your smile, comfy shoes and maybe a hat!

Spots are limited to 20 Retirees – don’t miss out.

RSVP by Aug. 12

to Dulce Lopez, Retiree Coordinator, at (800) 464-0452 (ext. 188) or email retirees@employeesclub.com



RETIREMENT PLAQUE PRESENTATIONS

We Honor Your Service!

Association CEO Robert Larios and Club staff honor Retired Club Members with a plaque for their many years of dedicated service to Los Angeles.



Martha Archila
Retired from LACERS
31 years of City service

Have You Reserved Your Plaque?

The next grand **Retirement Plaque celebration** is scheduled for **July 10** at the California Endowment Center in downtown LA. The Club Retirement Plaque is one of the Club’s very best benefits. *Reserve your plaque now!*



Eric Hartman
Retired from Airports
10 years of City service



Henry Ellis
Retired from LADWP
30 years of City service



Henry Starks
Retired from Public Works
40 years of City service



Rosie Poydras
Retired from LADWP
33 years of City service

FREE! * CLUB RETIREMENT PLAQUE



Retired or Retiring Soon?

Receive your own personalized Club Retirement Plaque, free! (Must be a Club Member for at least five consecutive years.)

* a \$499 value!

Get started here:





Retire Ready!

For Active and Already Retired Members

Your Monthly Hub for:

- Smart Transitions Into Retirement
- Staying Connected, Having Fun



FOR THOSE ALREADY RETIRED

The Retiree Society

A community for Retired City employees to connect, share stories and stay active through events, resources and friendships.

‘Your Best Life’ Photo Contest

Thank you to everyone who shared their beautiful moments for our “Your Best Life” photo contest! In this month’s issue, we’re celebrating Retirees traveling the world, welcoming new great grandbabies, spending time with friends, and enjoying their favorite hobbies.

It’s inspiring to see how our Club community is living life to the fullest — and we can’t wait to see more! The contest is ongoing, so keep those wonderful photos coming for your chance to win a \$50 gift card.

Beverly Mims
Retired, Housing



John Otoshi
Retired, LADWP



Evelyn Auyeung
Retired, General Services



Christopher Price *Retired, LADOT*



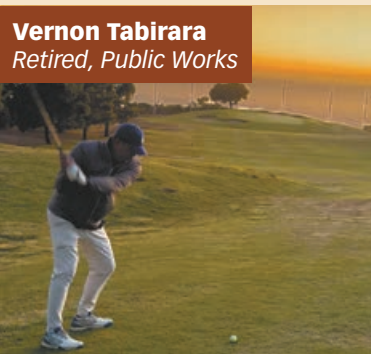
Officer Yves Didier
Retired, Airports



Jill Weiszmann
Retired Club Member



Capt. Michael Barnes, *Retired, Harbor*



Vernon Tabirara
Retired, Public Works

Retired? Let’s Stay Connected!

The Retiree Society has created a special Facebook group just for you to reconnect, share stories, and stay updated on all the great benefits still available to you through the Club.

Whether you’re traveling, picking up a new hobby, or just enjoying a slower pace, this is your space to connect with others who’ve walked a similar path.

Join the conversation today!

Simply scan the QR code to the right to go straight to the group on Facebook. Once you’re there, introduce yourself by sharing:

- When you retired
- What department or agency you worked for
- What you’re enjoying most about retirement so far

We can’t wait to hear your stories and see this community grow. Welcome again—and cheers to this new chapter!

Society Facebook Group



JOIN TODAY



YOU’RE INVITED

A Special Workshop

Retiree Society members – and all City Retirees – are invited to a special Club event:

Finding Purpose After Retirement

Join us for a free, two-hour workshop designed just for Retirees looking to discover deeper meaning and fulfillment in this next phase of life. Whether you’re looking to give back, explore passions, or simply reconnect with what matters most—you’re not alone.

What you’ll experience:

- Interactive discussions about your purpose and identity after Retirement
- Reflective activities to uncover your unique passions and gifts
- Real stories from other Retirees who’ve found purpose in unexpected ways
- A welcoming space to connect and be inspired

It’s open to all Retirees—no prep needed, just come as you are!

Sessions are capped at 12 people.

Choose one of these two dates:

Sat., July 26

10 a.m. to noon

Urban Café

4001 N. Lakewood Blvd., Suite 100
Long Beach

Or

Sun., July 27

10 a.m. to noon

Lancaster Club Office

1206 W Ave J, Lancaster

RSVP by July 21 to Dulce Lopez,
Retiree Coordinator, at
(800) 464-0452 (ext. 188) or
email retirees@employeesclub.com

FOR ACTIVE EMPLOYEES RETIRING SOON

Plan a Smart Retirement



As you prepare to retire, are you making the right decisions? Start with a fun and productive party with the Club!

The Club is here to guide you through the retirement planning process every step of the way! If you plan to retire soon or are newly Retired, you have access to attend a retirement planning party with Club Retiree Specialist Counselors that will set you up for success in retirement.

Topics include pension deduction, Retiree Life Insurance, Retiree Legal Insurance, the Club’s Retiree Mentorship Program, our Retiree Recognition Awards, and other valuable Club benefits. The Club strives to make your transfer from active to Retired as easy as possible by guiding you through the process; educating you on new, important topics; and welcoming you to our Club Retiree Community.

Attend a Retirement Planning Party!



July 31, 1 – 2 p.m.
(Last Thursday of each month)

Club Headquarters

311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300, Downtown Los Angeles

Validated parking provided.

RSVP today!

To reserve a spot at an upcoming Club Retirement Planning Party:
Call us at (800) 464-0452, option 4, or email us at info@employeesclub.com

Don’t hesitate to contact our Retiree specialists at
info@employeesclub.com • or (800) 464-0452

THEME DAYS

During National Dispatchers Week 2025, the LAPD's Metro and Valley Communication Centers hosted theme days. Here are highlights of some of the fun!



TRAINER OF THE YEAR

Guadalupe De La Cruz, PSR III, Club Member, was named 2024 Trainer of the Year by the Southern California APCO (California Public Safety Radio Association), an industry association serving public safety communicators.

The honor was bestowed upon her at an APCO conference during National Dispatchers Week.

"With 28 years of experience, Guadalupe has been a powerhouse in training and mentoring the next generation of dispatchers," the association wrote. "In 2024 alone, she was loaned to the Training Unit to help instruct a new Class of PSR trainees, led impactful Critical Incident Training at the Police Museum using her firsthand knowledge of the 1997 North Hollywood shootout, and stepped in as a substitute instructor whenever needed.

"This recognition not only celebrates her incredible accomplishments—it's also a perfect way to honor the dedication of all our dispatchers during National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week."

Congratulations, Guadalupe! ●



Guadalupe De La Cruz, PSR III, Club Member, was honored as Trainer of the Year by Southern California APCO President Steve Goodwyn.

SISTER ACT

SAFETY AGENCY HOSTS LOCAL CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL DISPATCHERS WEEK.

LAPD: Three sisters – (from left) Eva Montano; PSR III; Diana Montano, PSR II; and Norma Montano, PSR II – all proudly serve as 9-1-1 Operators, dedicating their lives to helping the people of Los Angeles. And they are all Club Members.

The Club honors you during National Dispatchers Week! ●



Seas the Day
With Member Savings
At Aquarium of the Pacific!

employeesclub.com



LOS ANGELES CITY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

Moutes Elected as Retiree Rep



Tom Moutes

Tom Moutes, Retired former General Manager, LACERS, has been elected as the Retirees Commissioner on the LACERS Board of Administration. He was scheduled to be sworn in and begin his five-year term July 1.

Tom won 52 percent of the votes in a runoff election held May 23. His opponent, the incumbent Mike Wilkinson, Retired, City Attorney's Office, won 47 percent (both numbers rounded). In the initial election, Wilkinson won 41 percent to Moutes' 36 percent (both rounded) in a crowded field, but no candidate reached 50 percent plus one vote, causing the runoff.

The Club congratulates Tom Moutes on his election to the LACERS board, and thanks Mike Wilkinson for his many years of contributions to *Alive!* to keep our readers apprised of LACERS board news.

FOR ACTIVE AND RETIRED MEMBERS

Making an Appointment Is Best Way to Visit LACERS

LACERS uses an appointment-based system for all members who need in-person assistance. There are two options for appointments: in person, at our headquarters, and virtually, via Zoom. These options allow for timely and convenient access to get your questions answered. Visit lacers.org/contact-us to make an appointment online or call (800) 779-8328.

Appointments aren't necessary if you drop off documents Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., and don't need to speak to anyone.

In-Person and Virtual Appointment Hours

8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday – Friday

Phone Hours

7 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

7 a.m. – 3 p.m., Tuesday

Additional online options continue to be available to you. Use the LACERS' Secure Document Upload found at lacers.org/secure-document-upload to submit forms or required documents, visit the LACERS website at LACERS.org to obtain benefits information; log onto your MyLACERS account at <https://mylacers.lacers.org> to view your account details; and visit the LACERS' YouTube channel at youtube.com/@lacersofficial where you can find a wealth of benefits videos. Stay up to date on LACERS announcements by checking the website periodically at LACERS.org, contacting LACERS by email at lacers.services@lacers.org, and by phone at (800) 779-8328.

FOR RETIRED MEMBERS

Summer is Here: Here's an LA Guide

At last, summer is here! It's time to get out and soak up some summertime fun and enjoy some of the best attractions and activities that your favorite LA hot spots have to offer.

Whether you're a lover of the arts, museum tours, shopping, line dancing, and so much more, find the best L.A. summertime attractions and activities by visiting the Cultural Affairs Summer Fun Guide at culture.lacity.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/2025-SFG-publication-web-2.pdf or scan the QR code for more information. There's something for everyone!

LACERS Health Advocate Helps With Your Health Plan Questions

LACERS Health Advocates are here to help! If you are experiencing any issues with your health plan or just have questions about your health or dental coverage, contact LACERS by email at lacers.health@lacers.org or by phone at (800) 779-8328 / RTT (888) 349-3996 for assistance.

Keep Your Contact Info Updated With LACERS

If your contact information is out of date and we are unable to reach you, LACERS may withhold your retirement allowance until the information is updated. Fill out a Change of Address form found at lacers.org/forms with your new information and submit it through the Secure Document Upload at lacers.org/secureupload.

FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS

Come Visit LACERS at the City Hall Farmers' Market

LACERS' Member Engagement Team will be at City Hall Farmers Market, 200 N Main St, Los Angeles, CA 90012, on most Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Stopping by is a convenient way to get your general retirement questions answered. For a complete schedule, visit lacers.org/calendar. Assistance is provided on a first-come, first-served basis, and the first five visitors will receive a LACERS swag item, so don't wait to come see the team!



LACERS Well champion Irene Galvan and her walking group. Join the fun!

LACERS Well Is Getting Their Move On

Retirees are getting fit every day!

On June 10, LACERS Well champion Irene Galvan hosted her weekly El Cariso Park walk yesterday with fellow Retirees.

Want to join Irene? Email LACERS at LacersWell@lacers.org for more information.

Alive! Feature



Club staff and partner representatives at the signing ceremony May 29 were, front row, from left: Summy Lam, Club COO; Clara Flores, Club Sr. Accountant; Mariana Guevara, Club Director of Ticketing and Affinity Programs; Robert Larios, Club CEO; Noelle Kauffman, Club Director of Sales; Arlene Herrero, Club Vice President of Business Development; and Guadalupe Lira, Club Director of Retail and Ecommerce. Back row: Oscar Fregoso, Andres Trujillo and Steven Hanson, representing Aflac; Alex Mattis and Dante Willerton, representing Employer's First Choice; and Brian Trent, Club Chief Financial Officer.

‘Today we are pledging trust, purpose and a shared commitment of excellence to those we serve.’
— ROBERT LARIOS

In today’s environment where trust, accountability and alignment matter more than ever, having a clearly defined Code of Conduct and Ethics is critical. With our expanding partnership and growing member base, it is essential that all parties operate from a shared foundation of ethical principles. This document ensures consistency in conduct, especially as we navigate more complex collaborations and serve a diverse Membership.’
— Noelle Kauffman
Club Director of Sales



Noelle Kauffman, Club Director of Sales (center), prepares to sign the Code of Conduct and Ethics, surrounded by (from left) Mariana Guevara, Brian Trent, Robert Larios, Summy Lam, Clara Flores, Arlene Herrero and Guadalupe Lira.



Club CEO Robert Larios signs the Code of Conduct and Ethics.



Andres Trujillo, representing Aflac, signs the Code of Conduct and Ethics.



Steven Hanson, Aflac independent agent, signs the Code of Conduct and Ethics.



Alex Mattis, Employer's First Choice, signs the Code of Conduct and Ethics.



Dante Willerton, Employer's First Choice, signs the Code of Conduct and Ethics.

WORDS OF COMMITMENT

‘Creating the Code of Conduct and Ethics is both a proud and humbling milestone. I feel honored to have helped shape a document that doesn’t just outline expectations but also reinforces the values we already practice every day.’
— Noelle Kauffman
Club Director of Sales

‘This Code lets public service employees know they are working with people who are truly there for them through good times and bad.’
— Dante Willerton
Club Partner, Employer’s First Choice

‘By adhering to these principles, all Club Representatives aim to maintain the highest standards of professionalism, integrity and customer service while representing the Club.’
— Robert Larios
President and CEO, Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (the Club)

‘The values of our Board, management, staff, vendors and all the stakeholders we represent must see our values in what we do, not merely in what we say.’
— Rita Robinson-Kane
Retired, LADOT; Club Board Member



CODE OF CONDUCT & ETHICS



THE CLUB

ALWAYS DO RIGHT

Photos by Summy Lam, Club COO; and Alive! editor John Burnes

The Club and partner representatives from Aflac and Employer’s First Choice sign the landmark Code of Conduct and Ethics – a vow of service excellence for Club Members.

Your assurance of exemplary Club Service has just taken another leap forward.

On May 29 in the Club’s renovated headquarters in downtown Los Angeles, the Club and two of its main vendors cemented their pledge of Member service excellence by signing the Code of Conduct and Ethics. The Club has always delivered outstanding service to its Members. With this signing, Club service has reached another level.

The inaugural vendors who also signed the Code include insurance partner Aflac and insurance and service partner Employer’s First Choice. Together, the Club and these two partners cover all of California.

“This is a significant occasion,” commented Association and Club President and CEO Robert Larios. “We are not just celebrating a milestone, but defining the principles that guide us forward as an organization and partners. Our greatest strength lies not just in what we achieve, but in how we achieve it – integrity, trust, collaboration are the cornerstones of everything we do, and we’re taking a bold step in reaffirming those values.”

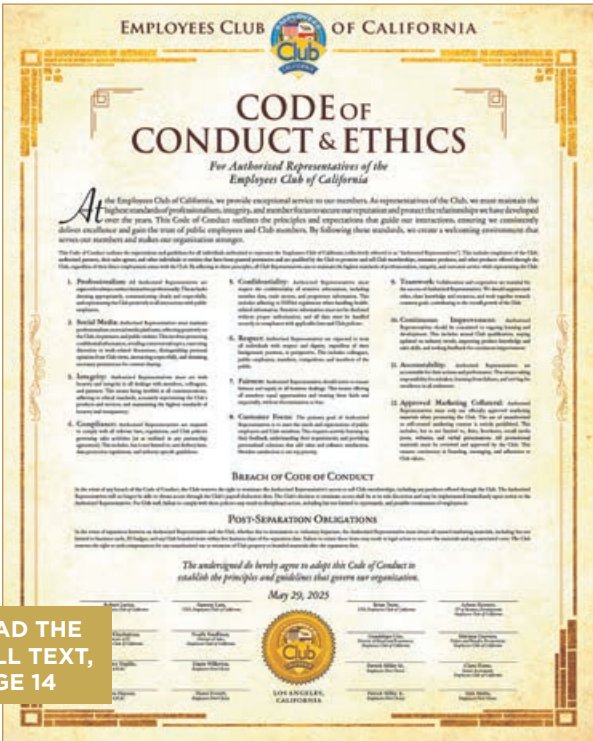
Copies of the Code are available for Club vendors to display in their places of work.

The Code is open to adding more signatories in the years to come.

BACKGROUND

The Code of Conduct and Ethics has been several years in the making.

Formation of the document’s content



Club CEO Robert Larios (far left) gives opening remarks at the signing event.

began in 2023, with Club CEO Robert Larios reaching out to Club partners about developing a code that would guide all those who serve Club Members with uniformity and purpose. Partners representing Employer’s First Choice and Aflac accepted. Major meetings took place last fall to firm the verbiage, with final touches added earlier this year.

AN ONGOING COMMITMENT

“Let’s remember that ethical leadership isn’t a one-time act, it’s a daily practice,” CEO Robert Larios concluded. “Together we will nurture this commitment, ensuring it grows into something extraordinary for the communities we serve.

“Let’s commemorate this moment with a celebration of all that we stand for.” ●



THE CODE’S PROMISE TO MEMBERS

- The Code’s signatories promise:
- Professionalism
 - Integrity
 - Compliance
 - Confidentiality
 - Respect
 - Fairness
 - Customer focus
 - Teamwork and harmony amongst Club partners
 - Focus on improvement
 - Accountability, and
 - Consistent, accurate and positive marketing pieces

For more detailed information, please see the entire code on page 14 and on the Alive! website: alive.employeesclub.com

WORDS OF COMMITMENT

‘The Club’s Code of Conduct and Ethics puts into words our core values—trust, integrity and putting our Members first. It ensures that every relationship we build continues to serve our Members.’

— **Guadalupe Lira**
Club Director of
Retail and Ecommerce

‘This document strengthens our partnership by continuing to build on our strong ethical foundation, helping make the partnership more resilient. It also makes us better equipped to navigate challenges, fostering an environment that best serves all Club members.’

— **Alex Mattis**
Club Partner, Employer’s First Choice

‘This Code of Conduct outlines the principles and expectations that guide our interactions, ensuring we consistently deliver excellence and gain the trust of public employees and Club Members. By following these standards, we create a welcoming environment that serves our Members and makes our organization stronger.’

— **Robert Larios**
President and CEO, Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.
(the Club)

— CONTINUES PAGE 14

CODE OF CONDUCT & ETHICS



DOCUMENT PREPARATION

The Club and its partners have been crafting the Code of Conduct and Ethics for more than two years.

This document is vital. It will serve as the moral compass that will drive the way the Board makes decisions; the way our Executive team will lead the organization; and the way the Club staff will serve our Members.’

- **Andrew Virzi III**
LADWP; Club Board President
- **Andrew Virzi Jr.**
*Retired, LADWP
Club Board Member, Past President*

AT THE SIGNING

At the gathering celebrating the signing of the Code of Conduct and Ethics. The event was the culmination of two years of planning and creation.



THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS

The Club’s Promise to Members

This is the Code of Conduct and Ethics, developed and approved by the Employees Club of California and its partners, Aflac and Employer’s First Choice. Copies of the declaration will be displayed in the offices of the Club, Aflac and Employer’s First Choice. The document is subtitled: “For Authorized Representatives of the Employees Club of California.”

At the Employees Club of California, we provide exceptional service to our Members. As representatives of the Club, we must maintain the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and Member focus to secure our reputation and protect the relationships we have developed over the years. This Code of Conduct outlines the principles and expectations that guide our interactions, ensuring we consistently deliver excellence and gain the trust of public employees and Club Members. By following these standards, we create a welcoming environment that serves our Members and makes our organization stronger.

This Code of Conduct outlines the expectations and guidelines for all individuals authorized to represent the Employees Club of California (collectively referred to as “Authorized Representatives”). This includes employees of the Club, authorized partners, their sales agents, and other individuals or entities that have been granted permission and are qualified by the Club to promote and sell Club Memberships, insurance products, and other products offered through the Club, regardless of their direct employment status with the Club. By adhering to these principles, all Club Representatives aim to maintain the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and customer service while representing the Club.

- 1. PROFESSIONALISM:** All Authorized Representatives are expected to always conduct themselves professionally. This includes dressing appropriately, communicating clearly and respectfully, and representing the Club positively in all interactions with public employees.
- 2. SOCIAL MEDIA:** Authorized Representatives must maintain professionalism on social media platforms, reflecting positively on the Club, its partners, and public entities. This involves protecting confidential information, avoiding controversial topics, exercising discretion in work-related discussions, distinguishing personal opinions from Club views, interacting respectfully, and obtaining necessary permissions for content sharing.
- 3. INTEGRITY:** Authorized Representatives must act with honesty and integrity in all dealings with Members, colleagues, and partners. This means being truthful in all communications, adhering to ethical standards, accurately representing the Club’s products and services, and maintaining the highest standards of honesty and transparency.
- 4. COMPLIANCE:** Authorized Representatives are required to comply with all relevant laws, regulations, and Club policies governing sales activities (or as outlined in any partnership agreement). This includes, but is not limited to, anti-bribery laws, data protection regulations, and industry-specific guidelines.
- 5. CONFIDENTIALITY:** Authorized Representatives must respect the confidentiality of sensitive information, including member data, trade secrets, and proprietary information. This includes adhering to HIPAA regulations when handling health-related information. Sensitive information must not be disclosed without proper authorization, and all data must be handled securely in compliance with applicable laws and Club policies.
- 6. RESPECT:** Authorized Representatives are expected to treat all individuals with respect and dignity, regardless of their background, position, or perspective. This includes colleagues, public employees, Members, competitors, and Members of the public.
- 7. FAIRNESS:** Authorized Representatives should strive to ensure fairness and equity in all business dealings. This means offering all Members equal opportunities and treating them fairly and impartially, without discrimination or bias.
- 8. CUSTOMER FOCUS:** The primary goal of Authorized Representatives is to meet the needs and expectations of public employees and Club Members. This requires actively listening to their feedback, understanding their requirements, and providing personalized solutions that add value and enhance satisfaction. Member satisfaction is our top priority.
- 9. TEAMWORK:** Collaboration and co-operation are essential for the success of Authorized Representatives. We should support each other, share knowledge and resources, and work together towards common goals, contributing to the overall growth of the Club.
- 10. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT:** Authorized Representatives should be committed to ongoing learning and development. This includes annual Club qualification, staying updated on industry trends, improving product knowledge and sales skills, and seeking feedback for continuous improvement.
- 11. ACCOUNTABILITY:** Authorized Representatives are accountable for their actions and performance. This means taking responsibility for mistakes, learning from failures, and striving for excellence in all endeavors.

CODE OF CONDUCT & ETHICS



Club staff and partner representatives, from left: Oscar Fregoso, Andres Trujillo and Steven Hanson, representing Aflac; Robert Larios, Club CEO; and Alex Mattis and Dante Willerton, representing Employer's First Choice.

I am pleased to see our Club staff and associated vendors commit to a Code of Conduct and Ethics. It is not a commitment to perfection, rather a commitment to boundaries of professional conduct.'

— Rita Robinson-Kane
Retired, LADOT; Club Board Member

12. APPROVED MARKETING COL-LATERAL: Authorized Representatives must only use officially approved marketing materials when promoting the Club. The use of unauthorized or self-created marketing content is strictly prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, fliers, brochures, social media posts, websites, and verbal presentations. All promotional materials must be reviewed and approved by the Club. This ensures consistency in branding, messaging, and adherence to Club values.

BREACH OF CODE OF CONDUCT
In the event of any breach of this Code of Conduct, the Club reserves the right to terminate the Authorized Representative's access to sell Club Memberships, including any products offered through the Club. The Authorized Representatives will no longer be able to obtain access through the Club's payroll deduction slots. The Club's decision to terminate access shall be at its sole discretion and may be implemented immediately upon notice to the Authorized Representatives. For Club staff, failure to comply with these policies may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to reprimands, and possible termination of employment.

POST-SEPARATION OBLIGATIONS
In the event of separation between an Authorized Representative and the Club, whether due to termination or voluntary departure, the Authorized Representative must return all unused marketing materials, including but not limited to business cards, ID badges, and any Club branded items within five business days of the separation date. Failure to return these items may result in legal action to recover the materials and any associated costs. The Club reserves the right to seek compensation for any unauthorized use or retention of Club property or branded materials after the separation date.

The undersigned do hereby agree to adopt this Code of Conduct to establish the principles and guidelines that govern our organization.

May 29, 2025

EMPLOYEES CLUB OF CALIFORNIA

Robert Larios CEO	Guadalupe Lira Director of Retail and Ecommerce
Brian Trent CFO	Petros Khachatryan Director of IT
Summy Lam COO	Mariana Guevara Director of Ticketing and Affinity Programs
Arlene Herrero VP of Business Development	Clara Flores Senior Accountant
Noelle Kauffman Director of Sales	

EMPLOYER'S FIRST CHOICE

Patrick Miller Sr.	Dante Willerton
Patrick Miller Jr.	Daren Everett
Alex Mattis	

AFLAC

Andres Trujillo	Steven Hanson
-----------------	---------------

CONDUCT AND ETHICS IN

CLUB BENEFITS



The Code of Conduct and Ethics applies to all the ways the Club and its partners serve you, including:

Celebrating Club Members at work and having fun in *Alive!*, in print and online



The **Club Mobile Team**



Meeting Members and serving their needs



Club Discounts

Tens of thousands of Club discounts, helping Club families save money and afford a better life



MOVIES
THEME PARKS
WATER PARKS
TRAVEL
SPECIAL EVENTS
SPORTING EVENTS
SHOPPING
THEATER
HEALTH
SKI RESORTS
... and more



The Club's Joannie Mukai **Scholarship Program**, giving back to Club families



The Club's **Claims Service**, serving you at your time of need



Monica Zamudio
Sr. Claims Administrator

Mikayla Sprague
Claims Administrator



**Noelle
Kauffman,**
Club Sports
Commissioner



CLUB SPORTS

JULY 2025

Softball Tournament Begins With a Bang

DEALS FOR CLUB ATHLETES

THIS MONTH:

Club Members save 14 percent off retail prices on legendary BULLS/Pegasus bikes, featuring cutting-edge German technology.

- Traditional or eBike
- Limit 2 per Member
- Not combinable with other offers

Get riding with a great Club discount!



BULLS

Get all the details:



The much anticipated Club-Sponsored Summer Softball League officially launched on June 3, and it did not disappoint! With energy in the air and the crack of bats echoing through Glassell Park, Club Members took the field for a night of spirited competition, teamwork and fun.

This summer league features six teams representing a mix of City departments, including LADOT, LADWP, Rec and Parks, and Public Works/Street Lighting. In addition, multiple teams consisting of free agents from across various City departments have joined the lineup, bringing new faces and fresh energy to the field.

Games are held every Tuesday evening, with matchups scheduled at 6:30



Members of Team Last Minute, one of the league's teams of free agents.



p.m., 7:45 p.m., and 9 p.m. at Glassell Park. With each team battling for bragging rights and community pride, spectators can expect exciting games, big plays and great camaraderie.

Whether you are a huge softball fan or just looking for a fun way to spend your Tuesday night, come cheer on your fellow City employees and Club Members as they swing for the fences!



Club softball fun!



Water Park Discounts

Exclusive Club Member Benefit

Cool off this summer at the best water parks in SoCal and get exclusive savings with your Club Membership!

**UP TO
53%
OFF**



EmployeesClub.com



Retirees Picnic Fun!

LADWP EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION HOSTS ANNUAL RETIREES PICNIC.

LADWP: The LADWP Employees Association welcomed department Retirees to a picnic June 7 at Whittier Narrows Park in South El Monte.

The picnic returned in 2023 after a break during the pandemic.

The Club's Mobile Team was on hand to greet Club Members and others, offer great LADWP Retirees gifts and attire, and share insurance and benefit information.

The Club is grateful to the LADWP Employees Association for hosting the event, and to Dolores and Vince Foley, LADWP Retirees Association leaders, for inviting the Club to attend.

It was great to see all of our LADWP Retiree Members and friends! We're looking forward to seeing everyone again next year! ●



At the 2025 LADWP Retirees Association picnic.



Dolores Foley, President of the LADWP Retired Employees Association; and Vince Foley, Board Member.



From left: Kenneth Salsman, 38 years of City service, Aqueduct Division, Structural Design Group; with family members Mark Salsman and Ruth Salsman.



From left: Louie Chavez, 42 years of City service; David Cавero, 20 years; Michael Bloch, 31 years, LA Reservoir; and Nancy Bloch.



From left: William Von Wagone, 32 years of City service, Water; Lori Yee, 31 years, Water; Rosie Garcia, LADWP Commission Office; and family member Nick Nunez.



All from Water Distribution (from left): Joe O'Hara, 36 years of City service; Jaime Castrellon, 37 years; Kirk Broyard, 34 years; Moira Moe, 36 years; and Jeff Hernandez, 32 years.



From left: Anil Desai, 42 years of City service; with Ron Campos, 32 years. Both worked on ninth floor of JFB in Structural Engineering.



The Club's Rebecca DeBolt helps guests spin the wheel with a chance to win a customized hat.



Javad Keshavarz, 34 years of City service, Engineer.



Mike and Rosan Algori Grecu.



Armida and Mike Avila, 36 years of City service, Water Distribution.



The Hidalgo family, from left: Mary Hidalgo Gallegos, with Mike Hidalgo, 35 years of City service, and Cindy Hidalgo.



Sheila Wu, 31 years of City service, downtown LA, with Henry Wu.



Four sisters, plus one (from left): Irma Munoz, 31 years of City service; Hilda Pedroza, 32 years; Bertha Munoz, 32 years; and Maria Romero, 31 years; with friend Leticia Rodriguez, 37 years. The Munoz sisters were four of seven siblings who worked for the LADWP at the same time.



Front, from left: Armida Bannon, 30 years of City service, Power; and Rosalie Herrera, 34 years, Joint Water and Power. Back: Yolanda Lickson, 34 years, Power; David Bannon, 38 years, Power; and Mike Herrera, Rosalie's husband.



Club Board Member (and past president) Andrew Virzi II, Retired, LADWP (in back) with Club Mobile Team staffers (from left) Eddie Escalona, Lupe Lira, Cesilee Castillo and Rebecca DeBolt.



From left: Dario Miralles, 33 years of City service (at the Main Street Shop doing generator overhauls); Pete Guerra, 26 years (at the Main Street Shop doing generator overhauls); and Ronald Carter, 26 years.



Sarah and Robert Bynum, 21 years of service, Power, Sr. Supervisor in the Santa Monica area.



Javad Keshavarz, 34 years of City service, Engineer.



From left: Michael Chavez, 45 years of City service, Water Distribution, Central Division; and Frank Preciado, 42 years, Water Distribution, Central Division.



From left: Gleyc Ancheta, 35 years of City service (at the JFB John Ferraro Building) and Cora Siacunco, 30 years (at the JFB John Ferraro Building).



Jingles Heavelin, 38 years of City service (LAPD/LAFD/LADWP), with Kathy Heavelin.



From left: Daniel Chen, 22 years of City service, Power, and Lily Chen, 20 years, Building and Safety. Daniel and Lily won Club custom hats.



Catalina Maese, formerly of City Attorney's Office; and Richard Maese, 31 years of City service at JFB, Artesia and Lincoln Heights.



Aviva Raskin, 36 years of City service, and Bruce Raskin, 38 years, both at the JFB.



From left: Norma, 20 years of City service, and Allen Lupoe, 35 years, mainly at Harbor/San Pedro area, with Fuller Ross, 31 years, Western Distribution.



Delaine Valencia, Water and Power Community Credit Union, won a custom hat with the spinning wheel in the Club's Mobile Team tent.



From left: Daniel Nunez, Water, 20 years of City service (mainly at Sylmar) with his wife, Rosemary, Water, 34 years (downtown LA); and Irene O'Hara, Water, 34 years (downtown LA) and her husband, Joe, Water, 36 years ('all over').



Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc.

RLACEI

CONTACT INFORMATION



Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. (RLACEI)

Ann Seales, President
Terminal Annex
P.O. Box 86264
Los Angeles, CA 90086
PHONE: (800) 678-4145, ext. 706
EMAIL: Ann.Seales@RLACEI.org
ON THE WEB: www.RLACEI.org

- 2025 Executive Board of Directors**
- Ann Seales, *President*
Beverly J. Clark, *First Vice President*
Mark Blunk, *Second Vice President*
Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, *Treasurer*
Nancy Hammoudian, *Secretary*

RLACEI DIRECTORS		
Dial (800) 678-4145 plus extension		
Beverly Anderson, <i>Nominations Chair</i>	Ext. 702	
Loucin (Lucy) Artinian, <i>Treasurer</i>	Ext. 718	
Mark Blunk, <i>Audit Chair</i>	Ext. 704	
Beverly J. Clark, <i>Publicity Director</i>	Ext. 716	
Nancy Hammoudian, <i>Secretary</i>	Ext. 705	
Vicki Keoseian, <i>Entertainment Chair</i>	Ext. 719	
Joe Quan, <i>Technology Director</i>	Ext. 703	
Ann Seales, <i>President</i>	Ext. 706	
Larry Tinson, <i>Director</i>	Ext. 708	
Leonard Torres, <i>Director</i>	Ext. 707	

RLACEI RETIREE HELPLINE:
(800) 678-4145, Ext. 0

For retirement assistance, call the Retiree Hotline and leave a message. A Director of RLACEI will return your call and assist you with your concerns.

RLACEI WEBSITE
Visit the RLACEI website **www.RLACEI.org** to find the latest news.
Call (800) 678-4145 Ext. 0 to make suggestions.
EMAIL: Contact@RLACEI.org

MAILING ADDRESS:
Retired Los Angeles City Employees Inc.
Terminal Annex
P.O. Box 86264
Los Angeles, CA 90086

Change of Address?
Please notify Ann Seales, Membership Chair, at (800) 678-4145 ext. 706 or Ann.Seales@RLACEI.org for a change of address or to add or change your email address. Also notify LACERS, ACEBSA, LAPCU, and LAFCU as applicable.



Send in your Interesting News Contributions!

Contact: **Beverly J. Clark**, Publicity Director
Email: Beverly.Clark@RLACEI.org or
Phone: (800) 678-4145 ext 716

RETIREE EVENTS

- Thurs., Sept. 18**

Summer Picnic- Luau
Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Dr.
11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 11**

Holiday Party
Friendship Auditorium
3201 Riverside Dr.
11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

RLACEI EVENTS RESERVATION LINE
Call: (800) 678-4145, ext. 701
or Email: contact@rlacei.org
Due to staffing, telephone confirmation cannot be provided.



By Beverly Clark,
RLACEI Publicity
Director

Beverly J. Clark



Rustling Up Some Fun

Boots, cowboy hats and big smiles were everywhere at RLACEI's Western Roundup.

It was a day of cowboy hats and line dancing as RLACEI members gathered for the much-anticipated Western Roundup on May 15. The event turned out to be one of the year's most memorable get-togethers for Retirees.

Attendees were greeted with a warm welcome and cheerful western décor, while Retirees posed for pictures in their cowboy gear.


President Ann Seales welcomed the attendees and introduced the RLACEI Board of Directors.

Retirees enjoyed a menu of hot links, potato salad, baked beans and peach cobbler provided by Mr. Ardi's Catering. Following lunch, adding to the festive flair of the day, lucky winners took home a variety of prizes provided by RLACEI, the Employees Club of California and LAFCU.


One of the highlights of the day was the high-energy line dancing session, led by the talented instructors Penny Pearl (L2theD Let's Line Dance) and her assistant Doni Gunnells-Hall (Cardio Sole). Participants were trying to get those "Boots on the Ground" steps in! There was lots of laughter, and some fancy footwork attempts as Retirees filled the dance floor, proving that rhythm and joy had no age limit.

In addition to the fun, attendees received updates on their retirement and benefits status from LACERS Interim General Manager Todd Bouey and LACERS Commissioner Michael Wilkinson. Their presence and insights were much appreciated, offering valuable information for those in attendance. Also in attendance were Employees Club of California representatives Noelle Kaufman, Director of Sales; Guadalupe Lira, Director of Retail and Commerce; John Hawkins, former Employees Club CEO; and *Alive!* editor John Burnes. LACERS Well employees Kristal Baldwin, Benefits Analyst; Jonathan Jimenez, Administrative Intern; Betty Smith, Administrative Clerk; and Alejandro Zuniga, Benefits Analyst; provided materials for Retirees to learn more about participating in LACERS-sponsored programs to stay active, healthy and alert in retirement. Robert Aguirre, Social Media Coordinator for the Los Angeles Federal Credit Union (LAFCU), provided flyers and LAFCU update materials.

By the end of the roundup, spirits were high, smiles were wide, and many were already talking about "next time." Whether it was for the dancing, the food or the camaraderie, one thing was clear—this Western Roundup was a rootin'-tootin' success!



From left: Elizabeth Lee, Finance, 37 years of City service, with her wife, Stacy Lam; and Daisy Vasuthasawat, ITA, 32 years.



Vas Singh, Finance, former Club board member, 17 years of City service; and his wife, Narinderjit.



Line dancing was a big hit at the RLACEI Western Roundup.



The LACERS Well team, from left: Jonathan Jimenez, Kristal Baldwin and Betty Smith.



RLACEI Directors (from left) Beverly Anderson, Lucy Artinian and Ann Seales (President).



From left: Mike and Lily Wren, LAPD, 30 years of City service; with Lou Quan, Housing, 38 years; and Dulce Lopez, Club Retiree Society Coordinator.



From left: Elizabeth Lee, Finance, 37 years of City service, with her wife, Stacy Lam; and Daisy Vasuthasawat, ITA, 32 years.

More party pictures on the web:
alive.employeesclub.com



From left: Ira Starks, LADOT, 20 years of City service; Dwayne Harper, LADOT, 30 years; Della Lynn Lyde, LADOT, 34 years; and Sherrilynn Henry, LADOT, 32 years.



From left: Juliet Manglicmot, LAPD, 28 years of City service, and Randall Manglicmot, Finance, 28 years; with Cherry Recio, Housing, 39 years; and Irene Salvan, Library, 32 years.



From left: Gail Brown, General Services, 38 years of City service; and Rosalyn Williams.



Pauline and Derek Jackson, Zoo, 25 years of City service.



Ruth Petrucha and her husband, Fred Kong, Public Works/Contract Administration, 40 years of City service.



From left: Armando Tapia, 34 years of City service; with his wife, Alice; and Bill and Nell Deom, 31 years.



From left: Paula Miurz, Airports, Retired in 2018; Anita Cormier, Retired in 2012; Myrna Tecson, Airports, 30 years of City service; Lina Chua, Airports/LADWP, 25 years; and Linda Brown, Harbor/Airports, 32 years.



RLACEI First Vice President Beverly Clark (center) with the Club's Clara Flores, Sr. Accountant II (left) and Noelle Kauffman, Director of Sales.



Arlette Menard, LADWP, 31 years of City service; Karen Shepard-Grimes, LADWP, 16 years; Betty Porter, LADWP, 27 years; and Monica Lewis, Training Division, 36 years.

For Retired Club Members



LUAU PARTY!



Thursday, September 18, 2025

11:30 AM - 2:00 PM

FRIENDSHIP AUDITORIUM

3201 Riverside Drive

Los Angeles, CA 90027



Open to all Retired Los Angeles City Employees, Inc. members!

RLACEI member plus one(1) guest limit at no cost

Please RSVP no later than Thursday, September 11, 2025

****Only RLACEI members are eligible to win prizes.****

Photos & videos will be taken. Attendance implies consent for RLACEI to use your image and voice in digital and print media.

RLACEI 2025 Luau Party Reservation Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Number of Attendees _____ (Limit 2)



Email to: Contact@RLACEI.org

or

Mail to: RLACEI, P.O. Box 86264
Los Angeles, CA 90086

or

Call to RSVP: (800) 678-4145 Ext 701

Please provide information on the form above



To join RLACEI, call
(800) 678-4145 Ext. 706

THANK YOU,
MIKE

A note of gratitude to
Commissioner Michael Wilkinson.



Michael R. Wilkinson

The RLACEI Board extends its deepest gratitude to Commissioner Michael Wilkinson as the Retirees’ representative on the LACERS Board of Commissioners. His many years of unwavering commitment and diligence in serving those who elected him have left a remarkable impact on the retirement community he has faithfully represented.

In addition, Michael’s previous tenure serving on the RLACEI Board was marked by a steadfast devotion to ensuring the wellbeing of Retirees, addressing their needs, and championing their causes with integrity and care. His efforts have been a shining example of leadership and service, and his contributions have enriched countless lives.

As we bid farewell to Mike, the RLACEI Board wishes him all the best in his future endeavors. With heartfelt thanks for his immense dedication, we celebrate his legacy and honor the positive difference he has made.

Important Notice
Regarding
Unauthorized
T-Shirt
Solicitations

It has come to our attention that individuals or groups may be soliciting orders for RLACEI-branded T-shirts. Please be advised that **RLACEI has not authorized or approved any such solicitation.**

Any offer claiming to provide RLACEI T-shirts is not affiliated with our organization and should be regarded with caution. We urge our members to refrain from sharing personal information or making payments in response to these unauthorized offers.

Should RLACEI offer official merchandise in the future, our members will be notified through our verified communication channels.

Thank you for your continued support and vigilance.

— The RLACEI Board



Arnette Travis

GET HAPPY SERIES

By Arnette Travis, Author/Activist/Advocate, RLACEI
Contributing Author

Live a Beautiful Life

“The longer I live the more beautiful life becomes.” -
Frank Lloyd Wright

Comedian/actor/musician Tommy Chong did an interview recently in which he proclaimed how wonderful it is to age. When asked about the aches and pains that often accompany aging, eighty-seven-year-old Chong replied, “That’s your body telling you to stop doing whatever it is you’re doing.” While Chong’s response flies directly in the face of a commonly held belief of “no pain, no gain,” it acknowledges that common sense is worth having and following. Just because you can, doesn’t mean you should.

In the United States, where consumer spending makes up two-thirds of our GDP (Gross Domestic Product), one of the fastest growing sectors is anti-aging services and products. Major contributors to this sector include a significant rise in men’s grooming products; rising consumer awareness of skincare and longevity; and a growing demand for personalized anti-aging solutions. The foundational driver of the anti-aging market is the increased life expectancy and of course, the growing proportion of the elderly population: a.k.a. Baby Boomers.

The simple reason the anti-aging market exists and continues to grow is that aging, (or the evidence/appearance of aging) is considered by many people as undesirable and to be avoided at all costs. So, within an anti-aging judgment-free zone, let’s take a realistic look at aging.

Fact 1: You, me and every life form on this earth are getting older, even newborn babies. No Dorian Gray-Benjamin Button reverse aging is taking place, or even possible. In the words of actor Jamie Lee Curtis: “Aging is as natural as a baby’s softness and scent. Aging is human evolution in its pure form.”

Fact 2: How we age is completely under our control; that is, our attitude toward aging. If we look backward, aging is life lived in limitation. If we live in the present, aging is life lived with expectation for the future and opportunity for today.

Fact 3: We can live ageless by refusing to let a mere number become our identity. Here’s how.



- Don’t sabotage yourself with the thought that your decline is inevitable.
- Maintain the ability to see beauty in people and nature.
- Practice and share your skills, talents and creativity with the people you love.
- Don’t stop laughing, being curious, celebrating, or being grateful for your life.

“Know that you are the perfect age. Each year is special and precious, for you shall only live it once. Be comfortable with growing older.” - Louise Hay ●

Happily yours,
Arnette

WIN

\$50

Amazon
Gift Card



Deadline
For submission:

Aug. 8, 2025

Look for winners on
Web Alive! in March:

alive.employeesclub.com

Coloring Contest for Grown-Ups!



HEY CLUB MEMBERS,

Hey Club Members, it's time for another Grown-Up Coloring Contest, so get out your crayons, sparkles and whatnot, and get going!

The prize: a \$50 Amazon gift card.

PLEASE COMPLETE:

Name: _____

Job title and department with the City: _____

Your Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____

PLEASE PROVIDE

Club Membership Number:

Send Entries to:

Grown-Up Coloring Contest
Employees Club of California
311 S. Spring St., Suite 1300
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Rules of the Club's Grown-up 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.

Download Coloring
Art From the Web

You can download and print art from *Web Alive!*:
alive.employeesclub.com/grown-up-coloring-contest



Name of Artist: _____

Alive! AROUND THE WORLD

Japan



Pablo Nino Franco, Retired, Harbor, and his wife, Josie, enjoyed a cruise in Japan. "This picture was in Shimizu, Japan, with Mt. Fuji in the backdrop."

New York City



Here's *Alive!* editor **John Burnes**, discovering that Eighth Avenue is much easier to traverse than through the hordes in Times Square, New York City.

Send in a travel picture holding *Alive!*



- Snap a high resolution photo of you holding *Alive!*
- Go to: alive.employeesclub.com/alivearoundtheworld. You'll find a convenient online form to send your text and pics for publication.

Letter From Japan, Pt. 2

Mountains, Lakes and the Bullet Train

Exploring the surrounding countryside is always fun when visiting a new city, and Tokyo is no exception. With Mt Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park only 60 miles away from Tokyo, the park is a perfect place to visit. Here are four ways to enjoy this adventure depending on time and budget.

Organized Tour Buses

Early morning coach tours for the less adventurous travelers or those with a time restriction are ideal as it's only a two-and-a-half-hour drive up to Mt. Fuji's fifth viewing station, the highest point accessible by vehicle. Once here, along with hundreds of fellow tourists hoping for a clear photo of Mt. Fuji (very rare), they instead photograph the shrines, torii gates, souvenir shops and the small Kiso horses (a native Japanese breed) that can take climbers and hikers to higher stations. Back on the coach, it's back down the mountain to enjoy a buffet lunch before departure to the Hakone National Park Ropeway for a breathtaking ride in an enclosed 360-degree-view cabin over the smoking volcano below to the top of Mt. Komagatake. There you can stroll around its summit before descending for a short cruise across Lake Ashi on a pirate ship and a coach transfer to catch the evening bullet train (Shinkansen) back to Tokyo.

Car Rental

Car rental offers the most flexibility for groups or families, but an International Driving Permit (IDP) is required. Tokyo to Mt. Fuji is approximately 62 to 75 miles away, and it takes two to three hours, depending on traffic. The Chuo Expressway is the direct road to the Mt. Fuji area, and parking is no problem, including at the fifth viewing station. However, in winter, snow tires or chains may be required.



Pirate ship on Lake Ashi.

Captain's Log

Traveling with Capt. Michael Barnes, Retired, Harbor

Train

Japan's rail system is easy to use, and tickets can be bought directly from the station, as not all rail passes are recognized. A regular train (two to three hours) connects Shinjuku Station in Tokyo to Kawaguchiko Station, and from there it's a short ride on a local bus to the Mt. Fuji fifth viewing station. The fastest train is the Shinkansen bullet train from Tokyo or Shinagawa Station to Shin-Fuji Station. If possible, sit in the right-hand window seat F (or D in Green Cars), as on a clear day Mt. Fuji is visible. Take the local Fujikyu bus

from Shin-Fuji Station (two-hour-15-minute duration) to Mt. Fuji's fifth viewing station.

Public Bus

Highway buses depart from major train stations and travel to Kawaguchiko Station or Fuji-Q Highland. Depending on traffic, it takes about three hours. If you plan on climbing Mt. Fuji, special buses from Shinjuku Station go directly to Mt. Fuji's fifth viewing station during the July to September climbing season.

Climbers on any of the three Shizuoka trails are required to install the official free "Shizuoka Prefecture FUJI NAVI" app on their smartphone from the App Store or Google Play Store, take a preparatory e-learning lesson and a Mt. Fuji test to receive a climbing permit. If you're in good shape, from the fifth viewing station it is almost a vertical mile climb (4824 feet)...

— Continued on Web *Alive!*
SEE MORE PICTURES!



Photos courtesy Public Works/LAPD

Heroes of the Unrest

DEPARTMENTS HELP MANAGE AND CLEAN UP AFTER THE CIVIL UNREST.

CITYWIDE: In response to the civil unrest incidents starting around June 7, City personnel helped manage the protests and the after-effects.

Thanks to all City employees who cleaned and protected the City. ●

LAPD

Motor Officers from the Central Traffic Division assemble in preparation for deployment during the protests.



PUBLIC WORKS

Personnel from StreetsLA and the Office of Community Beautification removed graffiti and cleared debris every day during the crisis.



Arlene on the Scene

Alive! follows Arlene Herrero as she meets Club Members.

by **Arlene Herrero**

Vice President of Business Development

May 31

On May 31, Arlene visited the United States Police and Fire Championships cornhole tournament preview event in Ventura. The Club was the official sponsor of the cornhole tournament. The actual United States Police and Fire Championships will be held Oct. 12. Club Members: The Club will reimburse your sport fee if you participate!



Arlene with Leah Fleischman, Retired, LAFD, 31 years of City service, Club Member.



Arlene with Det. Sgt. Stephanie Krajchir, Retired, 20 years of City service.



Life's Important Moments

Share your news... and send in a photo!

Have you gotten married? Had a baby? Graduated? Is a family member in the military? Send in a photo and a paragraph, telling us the details. We love to share your good news.



- Births
- Weddings
- Graduations
- Special Achievements
- Military Service
- Tell Their Story



Send your photos and text online:
alive.employeesclub.com/
lifesmoments

RETIREMENTS*

We honor the people who have spent their working lives building, managing and imagining a better LA, and are now Retired. We thank and appreciate all you have done!

Below is a listing of those who Retired from the City. To all we say, welcome to the best years!

NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS	NAME	TITLE	DEPT.	YEARS
Albright, Marites J.	Legal Assistant	City Attorney	36	Hypolite, Latanya R.	Sr. Administrative Clerk	Airports	23	Quon, Pamela J.	Librarian	Library	22
Angel, Miriam	Examiner	LAPD	30	Imoto, Masaki	Police Officer	Harbor	21	Rappoldt, Jack G.	Power Safety	LADWP	—
Antonelli, Karen D.	Power Operating/Maint.	LADWP	—	Jones, David H.	Dep. General Manager	Airports	31	Rausch, Charles J.	Assoc. Zoning Admin.	Planning	47
Atkinson, Isophine C.	Sr. Labor Relations Spec.	CAO	37	Krzyzopolski, Kurt J.	Sr. Constr. Inspector	Public Works	21	Reyes, Ricardo G.	Sr. Systems Analyst	Controller	34
Backstrom, Laura L.	Management Analyst	General Services	30	Larranaga, Erwin	Rehab. Constr. Specialist	Housing	23	Reyes, Yolanda	Sr. Forensic Print Spec.	LAPD	34
Baker, Arthur	Security Officer	LADWP	—	Leblond, Helene J.	Admin. Clerk	Econ./Wrkfc. Dev.	6	Rich, Steven J.	Water Operations	LADWP	—
Beaman, Gerald D.	Wastewater Trtmnt. Mech.	Public Works	31	Lee, Young Sil	Sr. Librarian	Library	32	Rivera, Raul	Motor Sweeper Operator	Public Works	28
Bialeck, Phillip G.	Power C&M	LADWP	—	Lin, Lin C.	Personnel Director	LACERS	26	Rodgers, Jonlyn R.	Traffic Officer	LADOT	22
Bobka, Sandra B.	Gardener Caretaker	Public Works	23	Lorta, Esequiel	Commun. Cable Worker	ITA	7	Romero, Debra L.	Customer Service	LADWP	—
Broussard, April L.	Sr. Administrative Clerk	LAPD	38	Lung, Michael T.	Sr. Plumbing Inspector	Building and Safety	7	Roney, Alan E.	Sr. Gardener	Rec and Parks	33
Burgos, Rene E.	Equipment Mechanic	General Services	35	Magabiliin, Theresa M.	Messenger Clerk	ITA	22	Roux, Roger F.	Water Engineering	LADWP	—
Carlos, Leonard L.	Power System Eng.	LADWP	—	Martinez, Christopher F.	Power C&M	LADWP	—	Rubio, Ida	Sr. Admin. Analyst	CAO	30
Carpenter, Teresa M.	Customer Service	LADWP	—	Martinez, Thomas J.	General Manager's Office	LADWP	—	Salazar, Ana	Special Program Asst.	Rec and Parks	9
Carroll, Gerald T.	Storekeeper	General Services	35	Maxey, Anthony J.	General Manager's Office	LADWP	—	Sandoval, Edward	A/C Mechanic	Zoo	13
Chang, Tracie P.	Management Analyst	Public Works	36	Medina, Ana C.	Customer Service	LADWP	—	Shanks, Cheryl M.	Sr. Traffic Supervisor	LADOT	28
Collins Quintero, Angelica	Accountant	General Services	25	Mendo, Yolanda C.	Corporate Health	LADWP	—	Soltero, Anthony	Power Transmission	LADWP	—
Crane, Roland L.	Refuse Coll. Truck Operator	Public Works	36	Miller Sr., Deshane M.	Signal Systems Spr	LADOT	25	Stine, Laura E.	Supply Chain	LADWP	—
De La Cerda, Sara	Sr. Administrative Clerk	LAPD	37	Mitchell, Olivia E.	Asst. Chief Grants Adm.	Comm. Invest. Fam.	42	Su, Ivy Y.	Sr. Management Analyst	Zoo	26
Del Pinto, John H.	Management Analyst	LAPD	26	Monico, Graciela A.	Recreation Instructor	Rec and Parks	9	Surmenian, Arnie H.	Sr. Management Analyst	Public Works	25
Diaz, Elizabeth	Sr. Project Coordinator	CAO	25	Montellano, Frank X.	Messenger Clerk	Library	11	Tang, William Hon Ping	Sr. Systems Analyst	Airports	22
Dolney, Michael C.	Equipment Mechanic	LAPD	24	Montenegro, Raul N.	Metering Services	LADWP	—	Tapia, Victoria	Sr. Administrative Clerk	LAPD	31
Esquivel, Francisco J.	Safety Administrator	Airports	29	Montes, Norma J.	Energy Support	LADWP	—	Tillett, Toya Y.	Supply Chain	LADWP	—
Estrada, Danilo M.	ITS	LADWP	—	Nazerian, Hampartzoom H.	Energy Generation	LADWP	—	Timmermann, Robert V.	Sr. Librarian	Library	30
Fiallos, Francisco	Building Repairer	Rec and Parks	9	Nguyen, Tony T.	Comm. Electrician	ITA	23	Trinh-Lee, Minh B.	Supply Chain	LADWP	—
Formadley, Curtis A.	Marketing Director	LADWP	—	Norman, Michael A.	Power Supply	LADWP	—	Truong, Dung T.	Power System	LADWP	—
Foster, John W.	Security Officer	Airports	24	Oishi, Lance	Contract Administrator	Public Works	37	Valmonte, Brillando B.	Procurement Supervisor	General Services	30
Fraze, Nancy J.	Water Services	LADWP	—	Pascual, Michael O.	Planning Associate	LADOT	16	Walker, Patricia A.	Librarian	Library	36
Freund, Donald R.	Maint. Superintendent	Airports	30	Patterson, Craig N.	Motor Sweeper Operator	Public Works	25	Ward, Cheryl J.	Customer Service	LADWP	—
Fuentes, Jose R.	Deputy City Engineer	Public Works	32	Penny, Kathryn S.	Sr. Recreation Director	Rec and Parks	24	Williams, Brian	Deputy Mayor	Mayor's Office	15
Gage, Charles D.	Heavy Duty Equip. Mechanic	GSD	13	Perez, Benjamin D.	Safety Engnr., Elevators	Building and Safety	18	Wilschetz, Keith B.	Deputy General Manager	Airports	3
Gibson, Denise A.	Administrative Clerk	Personnel	17	Perez, Joe L.	Power C&M	LADWP	—	Wong, Chuan T.	Power C&M	LADWP	—
Gil, Gustavo A.	Water Quality	LADWP	—	Pickel, Frederick H.	Executive Director	Public Acctblty.	13	Yang, Anita M.	Sr. Police Services Rep	LAPD	34
Gilbert, Matthew A.	Police Service Rep.	LAPD	5	Quach, Lilibeth V.	Systems Analyst	LADOT	27	Zaldivar, Jose L.	Wastewater Conveyance Op.	Public Works	15
Go, Rosemary U.	Financial Mngt. Specialist	Controller	32								
Gomez, Alex C.	Police Service Rep	LAPD	32								
Gomez, Edward	Rehab. Const. Specialist	Housing	25								
Gomez, Johanna	Police Service Rep.	LAPD	31								
Good, Greg B.	Director	Housing	11								
Gray, Valerie R.	Media Relations	LADWP	—								
Greenberg, Susan E.	Animal Control Officer	Animal Services	29								
Guglielmo, Neil M.	General Manager	LACERS	27								
Harms, Eric W.	Power Supply	LADWP	—								
Hightower, Victoria L.	Customer Service	LADWP	—								
Hoke, Glenn J.	St. Servs. Superintendent	Public Works	25								
Huang, Franny Shao Fen	Sr. Accountant	Public Works	25								
Huynh, Cuong P.	Finance	LADWP	—								

* **NOTE:** If you wish to have a listing deleted from our online posting of Retirement notices, please email us at admin@aliveemployeesclub.com, stating the name and department of the Retired person. The request must come from the actual Retired person. We derive our lists from official public records provided by the City and LADWP.

IN MEMORIAM

We honor those who have passed away and recognize their lifelong service to the City of Los Angeles. Their lives mattered to our City and our region. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of the following current and Retired City employees who were reported to have passed away.

DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE	DEPARTMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
ACTIVE							
Bluntt, Jackie	LADOT 27	Cashner, Terrence D.	Harbor 14	Iwamiya, John	—	Reynoso, Vincent C.	LADWP 30
Crews, Colin B.	Council 11	Cesta, Edwin A.	LADWP 30	Jenkins, Sandi M.	—	Richards, Leroy A.	—
Johnson, Keyona	Rec and Parks 14	Churn, Leonard G.	Airports 18	Jones, Marion A.	Convention Ctr. 28	Rowland Cole, Sally A.	LAPD 28
Mendoza Barraza, Jennifer	Council 4	Clay, Jack S.	Harbor 14	Keyston, Dale E.	LADWP 19	Schnell, Shirley L.	Airports 26
Piedrahita, Kevin	Rec and Parks <1	Clayborne, Roy C.	Airports 33	Leonard, Jack B.	LADWP 11	Sobretudo, Roland C.	LADWP 32
Ryan, Michael A.	LADWP 37	Cootes, Roy J.	—	Long, Tommy C.	LADWP 43	Sonora, Robert A.	LADWP 31
Thompson, Robert M.	LADWP 24	Fisher, Robert S.	—	Martin, William T.	Bldg. & Safety 13	Sturm, Arlen E.	Zoo 31
Vasquez, Theodore	Personnel 21	Floyd, Richard L.	—	Mirich, Bertha P.	Rec and Parks 31	Taylor, Robert A.	—
Vega, Pierre	Bldg. & Safety 22	Fox, Angela M.	LAPD 29	Monteleone, John L.	—	Vasquez, Rosendo M.	Airports 17
		Fujimura, Richard B.	LADWP 48	Morris, Thelma A.	—	Walter, Donald M.	LADWP 34
		Gardner, Joan M.	—	Mumau, Thomas H.	Airports 31	Washington, Anthony D.	LADWP 42
		Gebrehiwot, Makonnen	LAPD 14	Palacio, Angel R.	Airports 16	Watson, Bernadine B.	—
RETIRED		Gettle III, Rollin B.	Bldg. & Safety 13	Penhallow, William G.	LAPD 25	Weismair, Maximilian	Harbor 17
Ahlers, Darlene L.	LADWP 13	Gonzalez, Rudy A.	LADWP 33	Poole, Charles J.	LADWP 13	Whitson, Ronald E.	—
Alejo, Cris R.	Cultural Affairs 16	Harris, John T.	—	Potts, Frank E.	LAPD 32	Wichmann, Kenneth	—
Almore, Rodney L.	LAPD 10	Hickman, Theodore M.	LADWP 13	Putnam, Patricia J.	Rec and Parks 25	Windsor, Diane M.	Gen. Services 17
Ashley, Lee H.	—	Holden, Nathan	Council 16	Rasco, Jane A.	—	Yan, Fortman S.	LADWP 31
Bilderback, John R.	—	Ige, Omotayo A.	ITA 30	Ravona, Zissa M.	LADOT 7	Yeomans, Donald A.	Gen. Services 30
Bischoco, Corazon R.	Gen. Services 30	Isaiah, Roy	LADWP 32	Reed, Allen	LAPD 31		
Case, Barbara R.	Personnel 3						

Graduations



Zamia Hines graduated from Budlong Avenue Elementary School in South Los Angeles. “She plans to do well in middle school and high school so that she can attend college ... and also continue her love of art and playing on the soccer team.” She’s the grandchild Wanda A. Coleman, Retired, Finance.



Derrick McDaniels Jr. graduated from Canyon High School and plans to study welding and construction management at College of the Canyons in the fall. Derrick is the son of Derrick McDaniels Sr., LADWP.



Sophia Noriega graduated from the fifth grade at Aspire Antonio Maria Lugo Academy in Huntington Park. She’s “ready for middle school. Congratulations, Sophie! We love you. From Mom, Dad and your brother.” She’s the child of Claudia Estrada, General Services.



Angel Jaylene Galicia-Cooper graduated summa cum laude from Cal Poly Pomona with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a minor in teaching English as a second language. She plans to pursue her master’s degree at USC Price School of Public Policy in the fall. Angel is the child of Aracely Galicia, LADWP.



Thomas Kok II graduated from Washington Elementary and plans to attend Mayfair Middle School in the fall. “We are very proud of him!” Thomas is the son of Thomas Kok, Public Works/StreetsLA.



Blaise Hardy graduated from Culver City High School and plans to pursue a bachelor’s degree at Morehouse College in Atlanta. He’s the grandchild of Corliss Love, Retired, LADWP.



Amaru Jackson graduated from Canyon High School and plans to attend Glendale College in the fall, studying criminal justice. He’s the nephew of Derrick McDaniels, LADWP.



Nicholas Hernandez graduated from the Western State College of Law at Westcliff University in Irvine. He hopes to practice law in the District Attorney’s Office, and to one day become the District Attorney. He’s the child of Victor Hernandez, Traffic Officer, LADOT.



Christina Camson graduated from Ohio State University with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree. She plans to work as a resident veterinarian at USC. Christina is the child of Elvira Camson, LADWP.



Yandel Rosales graduated from Griffiths Middle School in Downey and looks to continue his athletic career. “I have been getting offers to play high school football at Cantwell-Sacred Heart of Mary High School, Bell Gardens High School and King Drew High School.” Good luck, Yandel! He’s the child of Juan Rosales, Airports.



Paige Tulka graduated from the University of California, Riverside, with degrees in sociology and film and media studies. “We’re so proud of you – you did it!” Paige is the child of Cliff Tulka, Public Works/StreetsLA.



Justin Collins (LJ) graduated from Clara Barton Elementary and plans to attend Ramirez Middle School in the fall. “Congrats! We are so proud of you, LJ.” Justin is the grandchild of Terrel Collins, Public Works/StreetsLA.



Trevor Quinn graduated from Grace High School in Simi Valley and plans to attend Westmont College, studying English. “With my degree, I hope to be either a high school teacher, college professor, or writer.” Trevor is the child of Richard Quinn, LADWP.

Imani Jestine Sanchez graduated from Wallis Annenberg High School near Exposition Park. She plans to attend San Diego State University in the fall to study psychology. She is “the beautiful daughter of Ivan Sanchez, Public Works/StreetsLA.”



Four Stars Retire

LONGTIME PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES RETIRE AFTER NOTEWORTHY CAREERS.

PUBLIC WORKS: This spring, four prominent Public Works employees retired after many years of City service. We honor and celebrate them for their dedication.

JULIE AND TED ALLEN, SANITATION/ENGINEERING

Ted Allen, the City Engineer who led the Bureau of Engineering since 2022, retired from the position at the end of May. Ted started his career with Public Works/Engineering in 1993 as a Civil Engineering Assistant, shortly after graduating from UCLA with a degree in civil engineering. He served as Deputy City Engineer for eight years, when he oversaw key projects including BuildLA, the Racial Equity Action Plan, and led BOE’s technology strategy department wide.

As City Engineer and Executive Director of the Bureau of Engineering, Allen led the Bureau’s delivery of an estimated 400 projects totaling \$3.8 billion and 20,000 permits annually.

Julie Allen retired as Sanitation’s Assistant Director of Clean Water Programs, also at the end of May. She began her City career in 1991. At Sanitation, she managed a staff of about 500 people and managed wastewater conveyance, watershed protection, green infrastructure, wastewater engineering and planning, flood protection, and implementation of the Safe Clean Water Program.

Before that, as the Principal Civil Engineer at the Bureau of Engineering, she was the lead on two of the City’s most iconic building projects in its history: the reconstruction of the Sixth Street Bridge/Viaduct, which opened in May 2022 and the rebuilding of Echo Park Lake, amongst many others.

On May 28, the City Council presented Ted and Julie Allen with proclamations of congratulations for their service. They retire with a combined 64 years of City service and leave behind a City shaped by their dedication. Congratulations!



Julie and Ted Allen (center) are honored on their retirement May 28 with Councilmembers Eunisses Hernandez and John Lee.



Julie and Ted Allen on the completed Sixth Street Viaduct, May 2022. With them is then-City Engineer Gary Lee Moore. (photo courtesy UCLA)

VICTOR CASTILLO, REFUSE COLLECTION TRUCK OPERATOR, SANITATION

On April 4, the Board of Public Works honored Victor Castillo on his retirement. He started his City career 33 years ago in the East Valley, before transferring to the West Valley. In September 2023, he joined the Livability Services Division’s Illegal Dumping/Altered Shift Response Team.

Thank you, Victor, for your dedication in keeping LA clean!



Victor Castillo (right) is honored by Bob Potter, Assistant Director, Solid Resources Operations, Sanitation.

LANCE OISHI, CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR, STREETS LA



Lance Oishi, a registered landscape architect, retired June 6 after 27 years of City service. Working for StreetsLA since 2000, he oversaw the bureau’s street furniture programs for many years and was instrumental in the development of the STAP Program, which is installing 3,000 new bus shelters across the City.

Lance Oishi was honored by the LA City Council on June 6.

Cooking with the Club

with Chef Robert Larios



Photos:
Patty M.
Larios



BBQ Pineapple Flatbreads

Layered with caramelized and pickled onions.

When life gives you a craving for something bold, unapologetically delicious, and just a little unexpected, you craft BBQ Pineapple Flatbreads. Sweet and savory? Oh, they're not just hanging out here; they're having a wild, flavorful party on every inch of these flatbreads.

Imagine this: A blanket of tangy-sweet BBQ sauce sets the stage for pickled, caramelized onions that bring both sass and softness; roasted poblano peppers that pack just the right bite;

and pineapple so juicy and charred it feels like it's whispering tropical secrets. And the cheese? Please! Melty mozzarella and Monterey Jack combine forces for a spectacular cheese pull that could probably make any pizza jealous.

This is not a meal for the faint of heart, but your taste buds have been waiting for a moment like this. Time to dig in and light them up.

¡Buen provecho!



Follow
this recipe
online

Robert Larios

Food Quote:

"Cooking isn't just about nourishment; it's like throwing a flavor-packed party where each ingredient has its moment to shine, and every bite leaves you wondering why you didn't RSVP sooner." – **Chef Robert Larios**

INGREDIENTS

- 1 red onion
- 4 ounces pineapple
- 5 teaspoons red wine vinegar
- 1 long green pepper
- 4 ounces fresh mozzarella (contains milk)
- 2 flatbreads (contains sesame, wheat)
- 4 tablespoons BBQ sauce
- ¼ cup Monterey Jack cheese (contains milk)
- Salt and pepper to taste
- Cooking oil
- Olive oil

UTENSILS

- Aluminum foil
- Baking sheet
- Strainer
- Small bowl
- Large pan

Cooking Tidbit

When working with fresh pineapple, its sweetness shines brightest when slightly caramelized. To achieve that perfect balance of juicy and smoky, keep the pineapple moving in the pan and wait for it to develop a light golden-brown hue. This not only enhances its natural sugars but also adds a subtle, charred complexity that pairs beautifully with BBQ sauce.

As for your flatbreads, brush the edges with a drizzle of olive oil before baking to ensure they crisp up to perfection. This simple touch elevates the texture, giving you a delightful crunch with every bite.

Looking to up the protein game? Grilled chicken, crispy bacon or even sautéed shrimp make excellent add-ons to create a heartier dish!



Food Lover's Dictionary:

Pineapple: This tropical beauty received its appellation from the English because of its resemblance to the pine cone. The pineapple is native to Central and South America. Hawaii, now this fruit's leading producer, didn't see its first pineapple until the late 1700s. Though there are slight flavor variations depending on the variety, all ripe pineapple is exceedingly juicy and has a tangy sweet-tart flavor.

Bibliography: Herbst, Sharon Tyler, and Ron Herbst. The New Food Lover's Companion. 2nd ed., Sourcebooks, 1995.

Source: <https://www.hellofresh.com/recipes/bbq-pineapple-flatbreads-620c20eaa420111a021e19a>
Accessed June 23, 2025

DIRECTIONS Serves 2 - Total prep time is 35 minutes



Step 1: Pickle the Onion

Get started by preparing the flavors that will elevate your flatbreads. Line a baking sheet with foil and place it on the top rack of your oven. Preheat the oven to 450°F and wash all your produce thoroughly. Halve the onion, peel it, and slice it thinly. Drain the pineapple over a small bowl, reserving its juice for later. To make the pickled onion, combine ¼ of the sliced onion, half the vinegar, and a pinch of salt in the bowl with the pineapple juice. Stir well and set it aside to soak up all those tangy flavors.



Step 3: Prepare Additional Ingredients

While the onion cooks, grab your green pepper and get chopping. Halve the pepper, remove the core, and slice it thinly into strips. Toss the strips into a small bowl with a drizzle of olive oil, a pinch of salt, and freshly cracked pepper. Next, dice the fresh mozzarella into small ½-inch cubes. With everything prepped and ready, you're setting yourself up for smooth assembly.



Step 5: Assemble the Flatbreads

Grab your flatbreads and brush each one with a drizzle of oil for that perfect golden crust. Carefully pull the baking sheet from the oven and place the flatbreads on top. For maximum flavor, evenly spread the BBQ sauce over each bread. Then layer on the caramelized onion and pineapple mixture, the green pepper strips, Monterey Jack cheese, and the diced mozzarella. Every bite should be loaded with cheesy, tangy goodness!



Step 2: Cook the Onion

Bring a frying pan to life with a drizzle of oil over medium heat. Add the remaining sliced onion and cook, stirring occasionally. Splash in a bit of water if the pan starts to dry out, to prevent sticking. Cook for about 6 to 8 minutes, until the onion softens and becomes translucent. This is where their sweetness starts to shine.



Step 4: Caramelize the Onion and Pineapple

Now it's time to bring depth and sweetness to the dish. Turn up the heat to medium-high and add the pineapple to the softened onion. Stir everything together and cook until the pineapple takes on a lightly caramelized golden hue, about 2 to 3 minutes. Pour in the remaining vinegar and continue cooking for another 1 to 2 minutes, stirring constantly, until both the onion and pineapple are jammy and irresistible. Turn off the heat and season with salt and pepper to taste.



Step 6: Bake and Serve

Slide your loaded flatbreads back into the top rack of the hot oven. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes, keeping a close eye as the cheese melts into gooey perfection and the edges of the bread crisp up to golden brown. (For 4 servings, rotate the baking sheets between the top and middle racks halfway through.) Once baked, transfer the flatbreads to a cutting board and finish them off with the pickled onion (draining it first, to taste). Slice into quarters, plate them up, and get ready to dazzle your taste buds!