

## Water and Power Credit Union: A Strong Financial Resource for You

**Water and Power Credit Union, a Club partner, is open to all City employees and expanding to meet your needs. And it's friendly, too.**

Club members might not have known that the Water and Power Credit Union is open to all City employees, not just those of the DWP. It is, and it's ready to serve the financial needs of Club members.

"Water and Power Community Credit Union will be a premier financial partner with all members and involved in the community it serves," says Kayleen Leone, senior vice president, member services, for the credit union. "And we welcome Club members. Let us know how we can help you."

"We're dedicated to helping members within our community to build a secure financial future through providing quality products while excelling at member service and education."

From its starting days back in 1936, Water and Power Community Credit Union has helped members save for a down payment on a home, purchase that



The Water and Power Credit Union is ready to serve your financial needs.

special vehicle, and send their kids to college. It has extended loans to make the rent when a member was short of funds, or to put a new roof on a house before the next winter storm. The credit union was the place where countless Department of Water and Power employees turned to solve life's financial challenges.

As a community credit union, it can now serve more people than ever before. Depending on where they live, work, or worship, this means that friends and families of City employees can join too, and experience some of the benefits that our members have enjoyed for years. WPCCU has \$430 million in assets and now serves more than 44,000 members.

Water and Power Community Credit



Kayleen Leone, Senior Vice President, Member Services, Water & Power Community Credit Union

Union is dedicated to strengthening the communities where City employees and members work and live. WPCCU staff performs volunteer work for many organizations throughout Southern California, and it forms strategic relationships with local and global human-services organizations to maximize effective-

ness. WPCCU focuses on building positive relationships, linking with community causes and programs to enhance the quality of life in the community.

Real estate and auto loans are the credit union's primary source of business, and the rates and terms are hard to beat. The credit union also offers recreational vehicles, signature loans and credit cards. Check it out for free checking, too. "We have a family of checking products that will suit your lifestyle," Leone says. "We offer the convenience of direct deposit for checking accounts and automatic loan payments to make your life easier."

WPCCU has six full-service branch locations in the greater Los Angeles area. In addition to its six branches, there are more than 17,097 surcharge-free ATMs available nationwide through the CO-OP ATM network. More than 3,000 of those ATMs are in California. As part of a shared branch network there are 1,000 branch locations in 37 states to serve you.

"Water and Power Community Credit Union is the friendly way to bank," she says. Give them a call at (213) 580-1651 or visit its Website at [www.wpcu.org](http://www.wpcu.org) to find out more about it. ■

## Lewis: Snakes, Lizards Guy

### New Zoo Director

*Continued from Page 1*

of Los Angeles good products and services."

It's all part of the advancement of the Griffith Park facility – and of all zoos in general.

"Zoos have really been undergoing strong change," he continued. "There's an emphasis on showing animals in a more natural setting. It's just more educational that way. Education and conservation gives our visitors a strong sense of what the animals really are."

"Here at the L.A. Zoo, we're building for the future, and we're going to be doing it over the next several years. We're upgrading the grounds and walkways, the animal habitats and the educational facilities for our guests. Also, we're making the grounds more functional for our staff, and we're building for the continued comfort of the animals."

"A big challenge is keeping the Zoo open and friendly during renovation. And I think we're doing that."

The upgrading of the Zoo involves fundraising, in addition to the public funds the Zoo has already received [see this month's Department of the Month feature for more information on public funding]. "I'm working with the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association and its work with corporate, philanthropic and foundational support."

"I help assure citizens that we are good caretakers of their donations."

How did he come to be the director of a major zoo?

"I've always been interested in animals," he said. "I was always the guy on the block with snakes and lizards. I was a pre-vet [the veterinarian version of pre-med] and I worked for a veterinarian in Monroe, La. Through him I got my first job at the Louisiana Purchase Gardens and Zoo there, working with primates. I immediately applied what I was learning in school to a real zoo environment."

He moved up quickly, with a stop at a zoo in Minnesota as its animal curator before running the zoo in Grand Rapids in 1986. He is well-credentialed: In 2001, in addition to performing his duties in Michigan, he was named president of the board of directors of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, which he held until last year. The AZA is the leading zoological organization in the United States.

But now he's an employee of the City of Los Angeles.

"As I went through all the processing of becoming a City employee, they gave me a very warm welcome. It's been very positive."

"I hope that all the City employees come by and visit. They should really take advantage of the great aspects of living in Los Angeles." ■

**Wanna be heard?** Welcome John Lewis to the City of Los Angeles: Send a letter to *Alive!*, and we'll print your welcome letters: [talkback@cityemployeesclub.com](mailto:talkback@cityemployeesclub.com)

The benefits start the moment you join!

# Join the Club!

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- The Club Card, with fantastic discounts for popular restaurants and services
- Big ticket discounts
- ClubFest annual Club party
- Club Website



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 Water and Power  
Community Credit Union