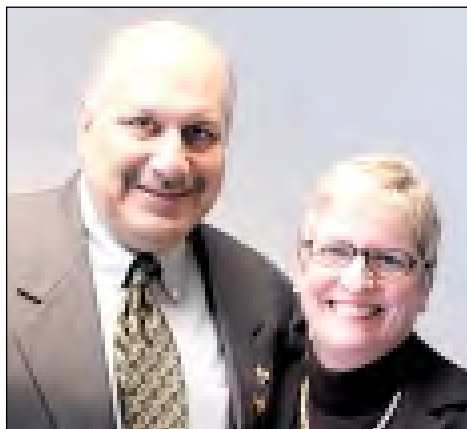


Dennis Zine's Challenge Leads Off March of Dimes Spring Campaign

■ **Councilman issues challenge to other City employees.**



At the kickoff breakfast, from left: Councilman Dennis Zine; and Maggie Whelan, General Manager, Personnel.

On January 14th, Transportation GM Wayne Tanda effectively took on the lead role in this year's March of Dimes fundraising efforts within the City family. But it was Councilman Dennis Zine who added the punch.

On hand at the leadership kickoff breakfast were top city leaders including Maggie Whelan, William Robertson, LAFD Chief William Bamattre, Gary Moore, Councilman Zine, Councilman LaBonge and others.

The March of Dimes Walk is scheduled to take place April 24th at Griffith Park. Coordinating the effort (with great enthusiasm) is Zaki Mustafa, a Senior Transportation Engineer with the Department of Transportation.



"More than 10,000 walkers and their families will participate in the March of Dimes'

See March of Dimes, Page 7

Club Members Now Can Save Big at Office Depot

■ **A BIG DEAL: Discount program can mean big savings at the register, just for being a Club member!**

Office supply stores are becoming critical to the way we lead our busy lives. That's why the Club has worked hard to offer you an invitation to a great discount program at one of the nation's leading office supply retailers, Office Depot.

The Club has arranged with Club partner Office Depot to offer to all Club members in good standing "contract pricing" — often the same discounted prices that large organizations and companies negotiate. They offer the buying power, and you reap the benefit.

"It's a win-win situation," says Ken Meyer, Business Development Manager for Office Depot. "You walk up to the register, use the credit card that you have registered with the program, and then you pay the same price as the contract purchasers do. That can mean big savings."

Here's how it works:

You contact Ken Meyer or one of his staff by phone or e-mail (details at the bottom of this story). You give him your credit card number (do not leave that number on a message, and do not use a wireless phone when you transmit it). He logs your card number into the system, and that's all there is to it. The next time you shop at Office Depot and use the credit card that you have linked to the program, you will receive a discount on any prod-

uct that the big contract purchasers receive. The discount is taken off your bill right at the register, automatically. Every time you shop at Office Depot.

It's that simple.

Not all items are discounted. But those that are can save you from five to 40 percent. (You need to use a credit card, not the Club card.)

"Office Depot loves the Club, and we're happy to continue to build our relationship," Meyer said.

See New Club Benefit, Page 3



Welcome to the Club, Councilman!

LaBonge Celebrates City Family by Joining the Club

■ **Councilman Tom LaBonge, after months of being impressed with the Club's activities, has joined the Club.**

He joins Councilmembers Jan Perry and Janice Hahn as Club members.

LaBonge has long been a City employee. Before beginning his tenure on the City council, he was a longtime staffer at the DWP.

Club members who run into the councilman should make sure to welcome him to the Club—and ask him to contribute a recipe or two for our cooking column! ■

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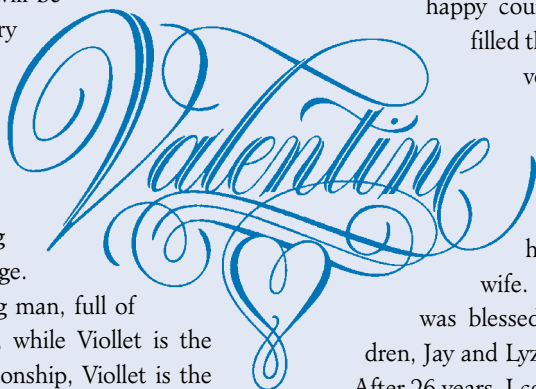
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■ Club Member Responds to Request For Very Special Valentine Stories

February 14, Valentine's Day, of every year is a very precious time for those who are loved, have loved and will be loved. My love story begins 26 years ago when a handsome gentleman named Louie and a radiant young woman named Violet began dating while they were in college.

Louie is a very loving man, full of fun and energy of life, while Violet is the opposite. In their relationship, Violet is the arrow that always strikes the flaming heart and love of Louie. He would always remind Violet that it's tragic to die and not have loved and it's just as tragic to die and not have expressed love to those around you. Louie has made the last four years of their courtship the best of Violet's life. Louie would always write letters to Violet wherever he was. To him, writing love letters is an inexpensive gift from his heart and an expression of his passion and love to Violet. He would make his letter special by starting with a beautiful purple stationery and envelope. Every Valentine's Day for four years, he would never forget to send her a letter with his gifts, whether they are roses or a box of white chocolate. Louie has a habit, every Valentine's Day, of signing his name on every card and writing a postscript that reads: "Will



Members Speak Out

you be my Valentine? Please say yes, I love you a whole bunch." After four long years of happy courtship, they fulfilled their matrimonial vows in front of God and pledged their love till death do us part as husband and wife. Their marriage was blessed with two children, Jay and Lyz.

After 26 years, I could not imagine my life with anyone else but Louie. Thanks Louie for caring and sharing. I hope Valentine 2004 is our best year together.

For those who are in love, and have love in their hearts, this Valentine's Day, treasure every moment you have to each other and with those that are special to your heart. I am wishing you all a spectacular Valentine's Day.

— Violet (Violeta Castro), Club Member

■ Long Term Disability Was There When She Needed the Protection

It is my pleasure to evaluate your service. Investing in Long Term Disability insurance is an excellent and extremely important benefit for any employee to invest in. A person never knows what may happen in their life in

the future.

When I first signed up for the Long Term Disability insurance, I had no idea that ten years later I would have to use the benefit. I am so grateful that I did join. I really had forgotten that I had this insurance until I started going through my important papers. I called the office to verify the insurance for me. It's a blessing for me.

I was "married" to my City job. But now that I am now injured, being off payroll is very scary to me. I have been independent for over 20 years. Worker's compensation covered only so much of the payments for me, but Long Term Disability insurance helped me balance.

I am always very thankful for any help and assistance, mainly that I invested in the Long Term Disability insurance when I did. My benefit of insurance is truly a blessing.



Every time I called the Club office for help or assistance, I always got a friendly response to my question from the staff. Thanks.

Yes, it has been difficult at times since I have been injured but through God's grace and helpful people as yourself and some others, I am able to smile. Thanks again and may God bless you.

— Linda Carol Treadwell, Club Member

Corrections:

— First, in our December issue, in our list of retirements, we misidentified the job title Lynn Schwickerath had at retirement. The correct title is Chief Clerk.

— Also, in our January issue, two people in a photo from Custodian Appreciation Day were misidentified. Here is the photo with the correct outline. Sorry about the mistake!



From left: Lendell Walker and Ceola Beard.

Club members: Make your voices heard! Do you like something we've done? Hate it? It's your Club, so let us know! **WRITE TO US TODAY: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com or conventionally: The Club, World Trade Center, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071**



Club Can Help You Save at Office Depot

New Club Benefit

Continued from Page 1

Eligible credit cards include Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express and the Office Depot Credit Card.

It takes just a few minutes to transform your ordinary credit card into the extraordinarily convenient and flexible "Office Depot Procurement Card."

Convenient on-line shopping available

If you prefer to shop from the comfort of your home computer and have Office Depot deliver your order to you, you must first set that up with Ken Meyer. The site you will use after you sign up is Office Depot's Business Services Website: <http://bsd.officedepot.com>

Find out how much you're saving

There are a couple of ways to check to see how much of a discount you might receive on an item, before you actually purchase it:

1. Office Depot will make a discount catalog available at the Club for member use (but not all discounted items will be available in the catalog for researching).
2. At checkout, you can ask the sales clerk to subtotal your purchase before you actually purchase the items.

"We're very happy to have Office Depot as a Club partner, and then be able to offer Club members this great deal," said Club COO John Hawkins. "There is no downside. You can never lose with this program. You can only save money." ■

Here's how to activate your Office Depot discount:

1. Contact Ken Meyer or one of his staff: (818) 837-2563, or kmeyer@officedepot.com
2. Identify yourself as a Club member, and give him your Club ID number.
3. If he does not answer, leave a message and he or his staff will call you back.
4. Do not leave your credit card number on his answering machine, and do not use a wireless phone (cell or cordless household phone) to transmit your credit card number.
5. When you talk to Ken or one of his staff, give him the number of the credit card you wish to link to the program. (You must use this card to receive the discount.)
6. Wait a day or two for your linked card to become active.
7. **Start saving!**