Alive!

Volume 3 – No. 4

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Alive! is published monthly by:

April 2004 •

City Employees Club of Los Angeles 350 S Figueroa St. Suite 700 • Los Angeles CA 90071

350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700 • Los Angeles, CA 90071 Telephone: (800) 464-0452

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Alive! is the official publication of the City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071. Postage paid at Los Angeles, California. CONTACT US: alive@cityemployeesclub.com SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Alive! is included with membership in the City Employees Club of Los Angeles. INQUIRIES: alive@cityemployeesclub.com, or (213) 620-0388. POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to City Employees Club of Los Angeles, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071.

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by **John Hawkins** COO, The Club

From left: Tree teachers Victor Hercules

and Irma Garcia.

Angeles.

DWP's Program Of Free Trees Is Made in the Shade



In last month's *Alive!*, we "unearthed" a little-known secret: a way to get free trees from the DWP's Trees for a Green LA. Yes, *free* trees!

It's a great program. The DWP gives you free trees that will not only beautify your home's landscape and save on energy costs,

but will improve our environment as well. Sounds too good to be true, doesn't it?

Well just to see, I went to one of the DWP's two-hour seminars one recent Saturday (attending a seminar is mandatory to participate in the free trees program).

The seminar was very professional, informa-

tive and interesting. Victor Hercules and Irma Garcia did a fantastic job at explaining everything from the structure of a tree to what they call the "three Ps" (planning, planting and protecting). Victor is with the LA Conservation Corps and Irma is from the Korean Youth and Community Center. And just as a testament to how interesting the seminar was, I took my 7-year-old son, Noah, and he paid attention for the entire two hours.

(He was also reciting tree facts for the next couple of days ... does that sound familiar, parents?).

I learned quite a bit about planting trees as well as maintaining the trees I already have growing in my yard. More importantly, though, those who attend the seminar will not

> end up planting a tree that withers away to a dry lifeless twig or one whose roots eventually destroy their driveway, sidewalk or foundation.

Also, keep in mind that most of the trees you will be getting are in a five-gallon container, so don't expect a full-grown tree to be delivered. One last thing, do not expect to

pick your trees immediately after the seminar; you need to place your order first and the trees will be delivered to your home in about two weeks.

It's an amazing program in an amazing City.

As I close for this month, don't forget to join the rush and call the number we listed to link your credit card for the amazing Office Depot discounts. It's for you!

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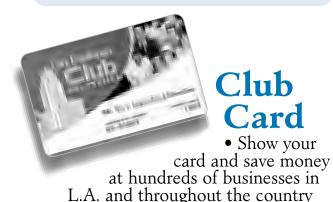
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