

Making the Night Safe

By Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

LAPD Central Division sponsors National Night Out.

On Aug. 3, the LAPD Central Police Station co-sponsored a local observance of the National Night Out, an annual crime prevention campaign and urban walk sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW).

Cpts. James Rupert and Blake Chow spearheaded the effort, which also included the Chinatown Public Safety Patrol and the Midnight Mission.

National Night Out is designed to:

- Heighten crime, drug and violence prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Surrounding businesses came out to support the effort.

There was also an Open House throughout the day and a free barbecue from noon to 7 p.m. Gun locks were distributed, and child fingerprints were taken.

The Club thanks Officer Marie Kardiban for inviting us to this worthy event.



The entourage stops outside Pete's Café and Bar in downtown's Old Bank District.



Participants assemble in front of Central PD for group picture before the walk.



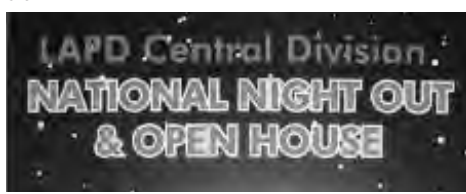
From left: Captain James Rupert, Area Commanding Officer and Captain Blake Chow, Patrol Division Commanding Officer, hold the event sign.



Leading the way on bicycle were, from left, Officers Guerra, Chapman, Rensch and Lenque.



Officer Candice Kandelaria and Edward Klevens, volunteer, cooking some delicious hot dogs, hot links and hamburgers.



The event poster.



Standing in back, from left: Wilson Liu, Co-Chairman, Little Tokyo Business District; Larry L. Adamson, President Midnight Mission; Tina Olson, President of LA Morning Rotary; Carrie Gatlin, Program Director of Midnight Mission; and Ellen Endo. Seated: Orlando Ward, Midnight Mission; and Frances Hashimoto, President of Little Tokyo Business Association.



Seated, from left: Officer Mario Marquez; Lt. Chris Paterson; and Sgt. Mark Kardiban. Standing: Captain Blake Chow; Officer Ken Lew; and Officer Jason Malik.



Holding the banners were Leslie Garcia, Explorer, 1 month; Rodrigo Martinez, Explorer, 2.5 years; and Arnulfo Granados, Explorer, 2 years. The banner was donated by Estela Lopez, Central City Association East.



The Chinatown Public Safety Patrol, from left: Larry Andrews, Henry Leong, Steve Hernandez, Craig Michelson, Steven Lee, William Lee (3 years old) and Danny French.



Captain Rupert orients the participants on where the walk will take place.



A few of the officers who participated at the walk were, from left: Sgt. Herman Kaskowitz, 32 years; Lt. Beatrice Girmala, 19 years; Robert Taylor, Jewelry District Security Officer, 12 years; and Sgt. Dave Nunez, 21.5 years.



From left: Alma Flores, PSR, 2 years and Club member and Sarah Chacon, PSR, 3 years, at the 911 LAPD Communications booth.



Entering the Old Bank District.








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