

Union, City Reach Tentative Agreement On New Contract

On July 27, SEIU Local 347 and Los Angeles City management reached a tentative agreement on a new contract covering some 10,000 blue-collar frontline city workers, according to the union.

"The agreement we are submitting to our members to vote on shows respect for the folks who do the work," said Chief Negotiator Julie Butcher. "We came to the table in the spirit of cooperation and good will. LA's frontline blue-collar workers are proud of the work we do for the people of Los Angeles."

According to the union, the tentative three-year contract accomplishes the union's goals of:

- Protecting city jobs and the services workers provide to the people of Los Angeles;
- Guaranteeing the continuation of employer-paid family health and welfare benefits;
- Winning justice for part-time workers who were being kept from working enough hours to earn and maintain employee-only benefits;
- Keeping public work public: Making sure that City work is done by City workers, not by private contractors.

"We worked with these 10,000 City workers to get a tentative deal that is fair, but recognizes that these are tough budget times and that we must make every taxpayer dollar work harder to provide the highest level of services to our neighborhoods," said Mayor Jim Hahn.

Workers will defer their first wage increase until July 1, 2005, when they will receive a 2 percent raise. They will receive another 2 percent on July 1, 2006, and 2.25 percent on January 1, 2007.

According to the union, workers were determined to resolve a range of other issues. Rectifying injustices facing part-timers was a fundamental goal of these negotiations and was championed by the full bargaining team, despite the fact that all but three bargaining team members were full-time workers.

The union bargaining team consisted of 33 rank-and-file workers representing all of Local 347's members in 11 City departments.

Many part-timers will receive a \$250 lump sum bonus in August 2005. The contract sets up joint labor-management committees and other means of accountability to help remove the obstacles hindering part-timers.

To help the City deliver services as intelli-



A union member getting ready for a City Hall East sleep-in (notice the toothbrush) June 25 during contract negotiations.



Driving around City Hall looking for a contract.

gently and efficiently as possible, the union developed a list of cost-saving proposals to save City funds and resources. That list was presented at the bargaining table, following the release last year and this spring of the more lengthy Volumes I and II of workers' ideas to save money and generate revenue.

Related documents are available at www.seiu347.org

To become an enforceable contract, the agreement must be ratified by union members in the applicable bargaining units and approved by the City Council. The union was to conduct a ratification election in August and count ballots Aug. 27.

Keisner Retires

By Arlene Herrero, Club Counselor

■ Surveyor retires after 14 years with the City.

Larry Keisner retired after 14 years of City service at the Bureau of Engineering.

Although he worked for the City for 14 years, he has 38 years of surveying experience.

Larry tells us he's looking forward to traveling, working on his inventions, and just "plain old fun." Sounds good to us!

Congratulations, Larry. All the best, from the Club.



Larry Keisner, Land Surveying Assistant, 14 years.



On left: John Brumfield, Survey Party Chief, 41 years.



A New Contest for Club Members!

WIN!

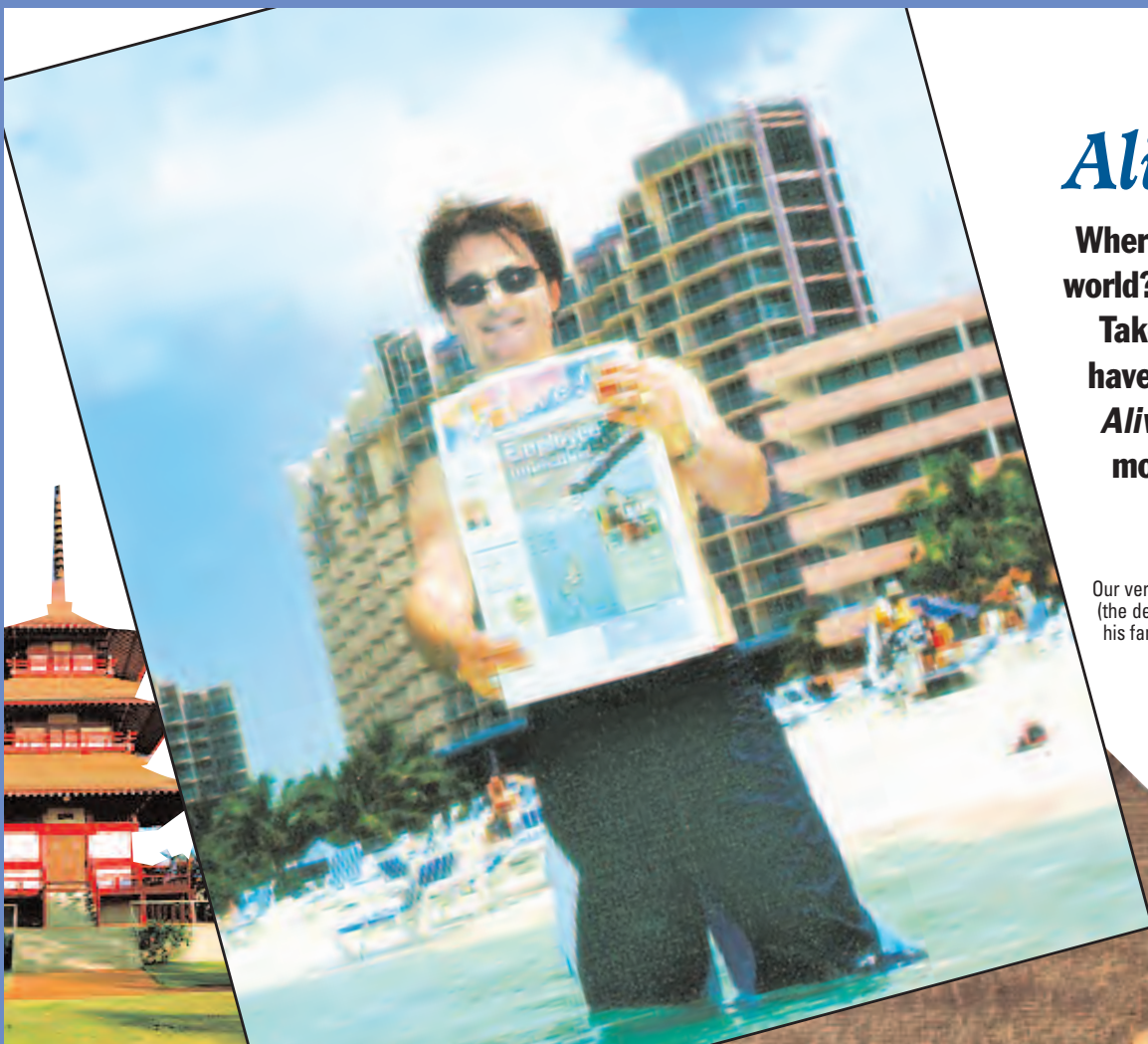
ANNOUNCING:

Alive! Around the World

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Take your copy of *Alive!* along for the ride ... have your picture taken holding your copy of *Alive!* in a place of note ... and win free movie tickets.

Our very own David Jamgotchian, from JJLA Associates (the designers of *Alive!*), enjoying the sun and surf with his family recently in Nassau, Bahamas.



Here's the deal:

- Take your copy of *Alive!* with you on vacation ... or a business trip. It can be anywhere outside Los Angeles. Anywhere else in California, the country, the world is acceptable.
- Take a photo of yourself, friends, family, etc., holding a copy of *Alive!* in a fun place: anywhere exotic and different. The more famous, the better, but all places acceptable.
- Send in the photo, either digitally (please keep the size reasonable, not too big, not too small) or a paper print. (Make sure to write your name and address on the back of the photo, so we can return it to you). Send them to:
 - DIGITAL PHOTOS: talkback@cityemployeesclub.com
 - PAPER PHOTOS: *Alive!* Around the World, City Employees Club, 350 S. Figueroa St., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90071
- If we use your photo, we'll send you two free movie tickets.
- We're setting a deadline of Oct. 1. But if it's a big success, we'll extend it throughout the year.

Have a great vacation; travel safely, and make sure to bring Alive! with you.